AMERICA'S PREMIER SPORTS ANNUALS 1999

Athlon® Sports™

NATIONAL COLLEGE

Football

ITION

13 Things We'd Change About College Football

Complete Ranking & Analysis of All 114 Division I-A Teams

Florida State's Peter Warrick

Tennessee's Tee Martin

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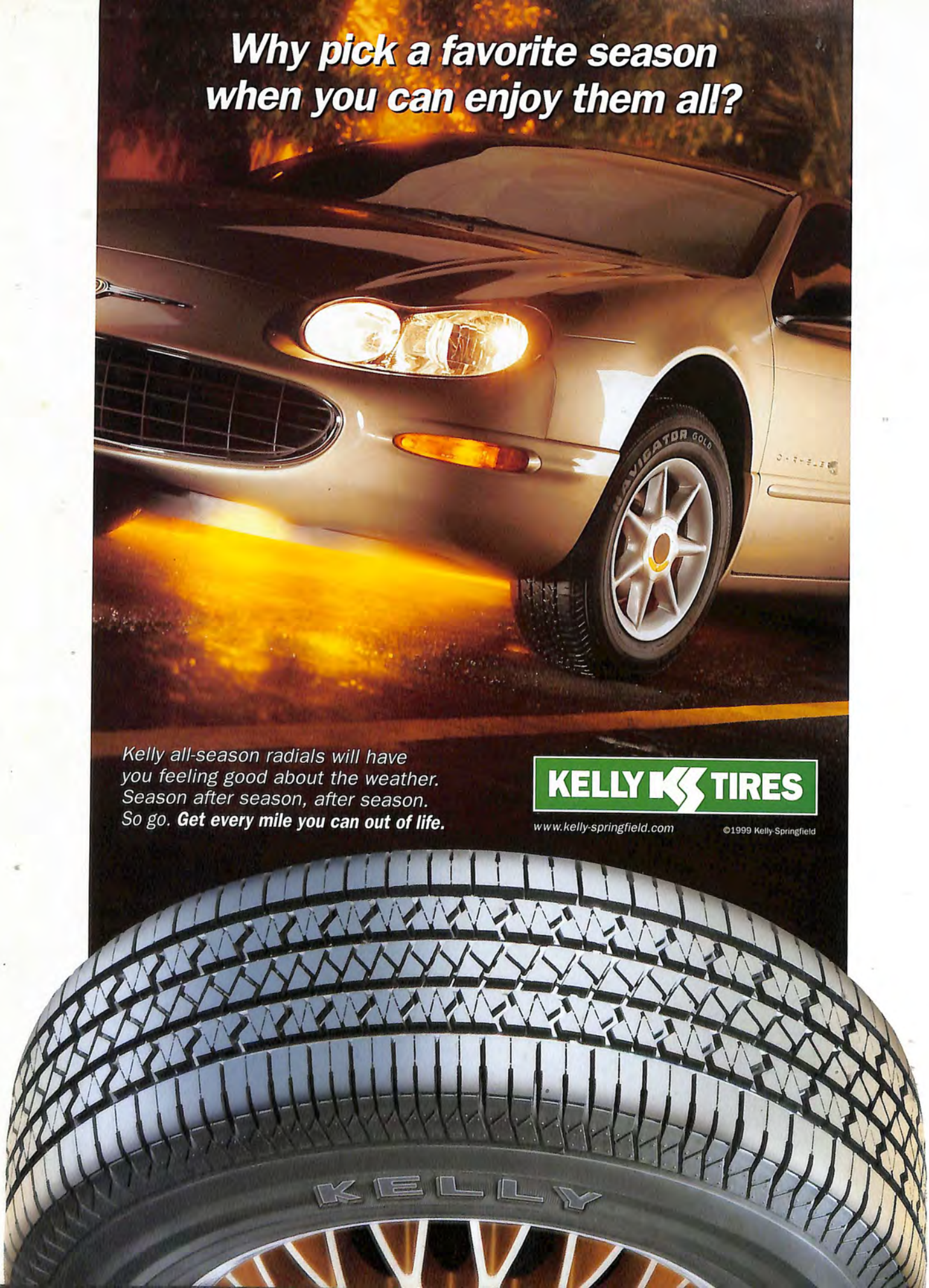
ATHLON® SPORTS™ COLLEGE FOOTBALL EDITION VOL 5/1999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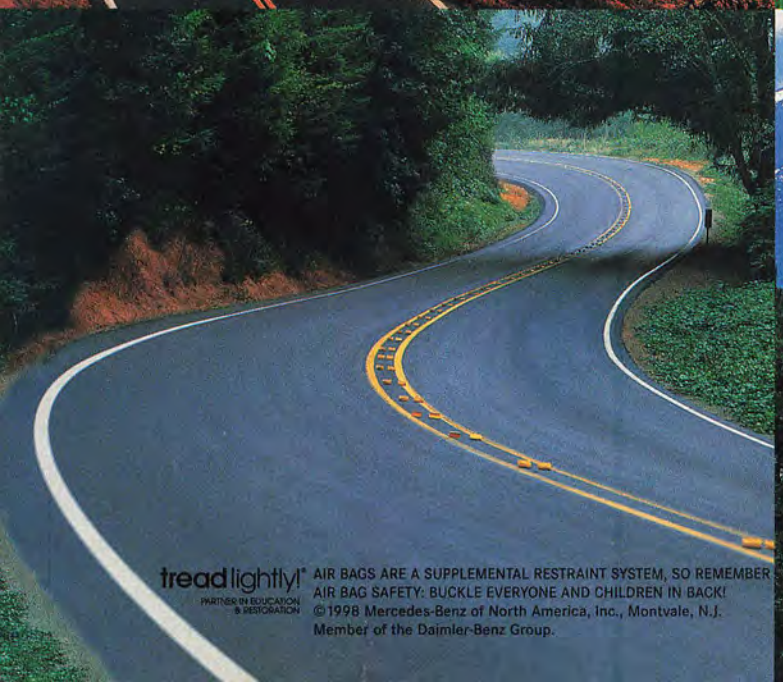

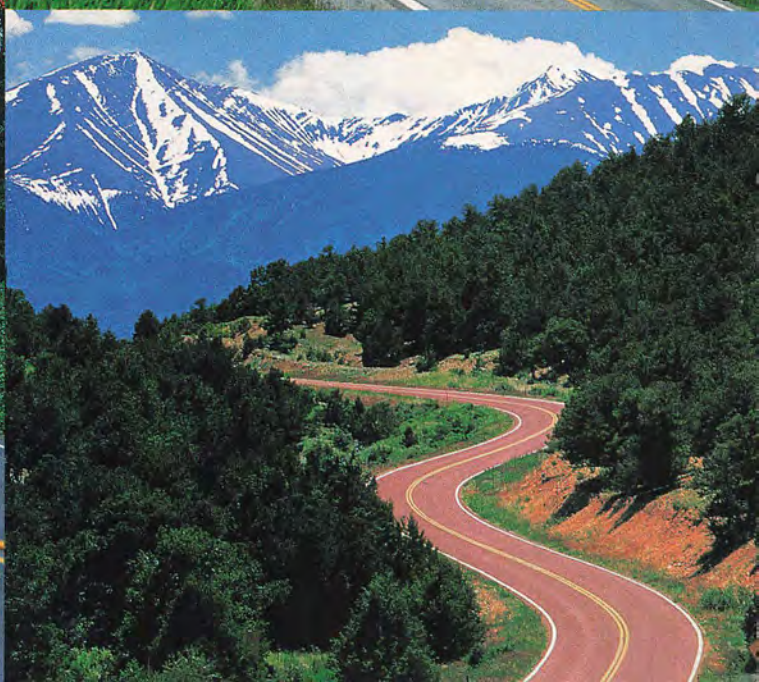

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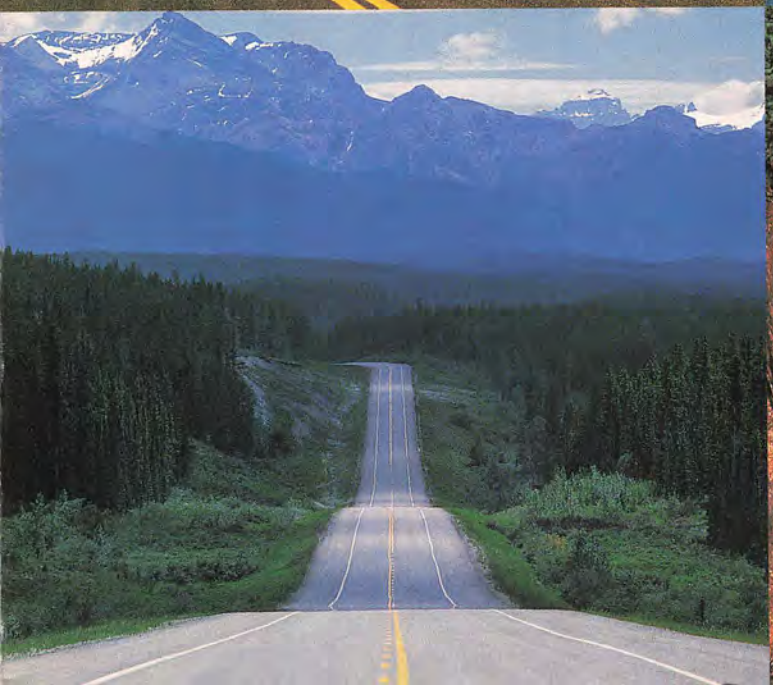

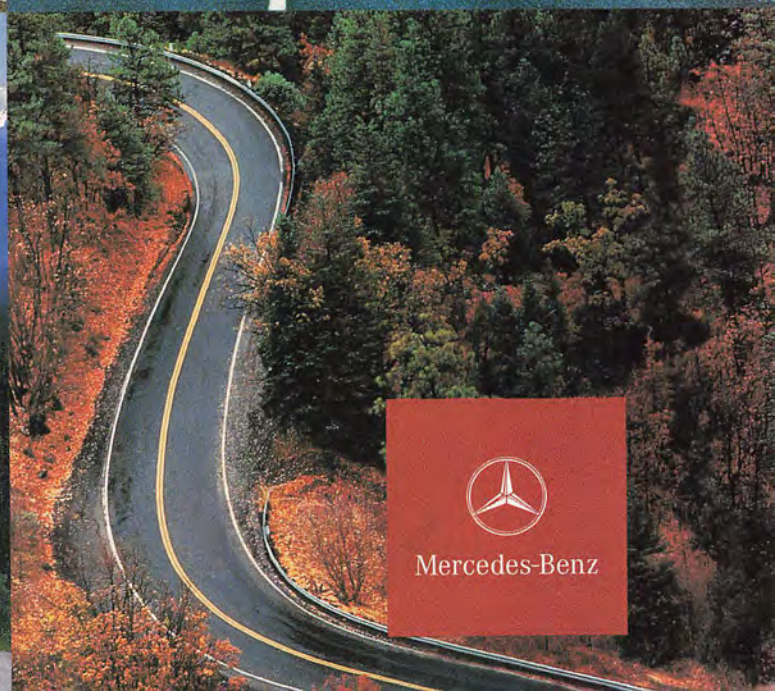

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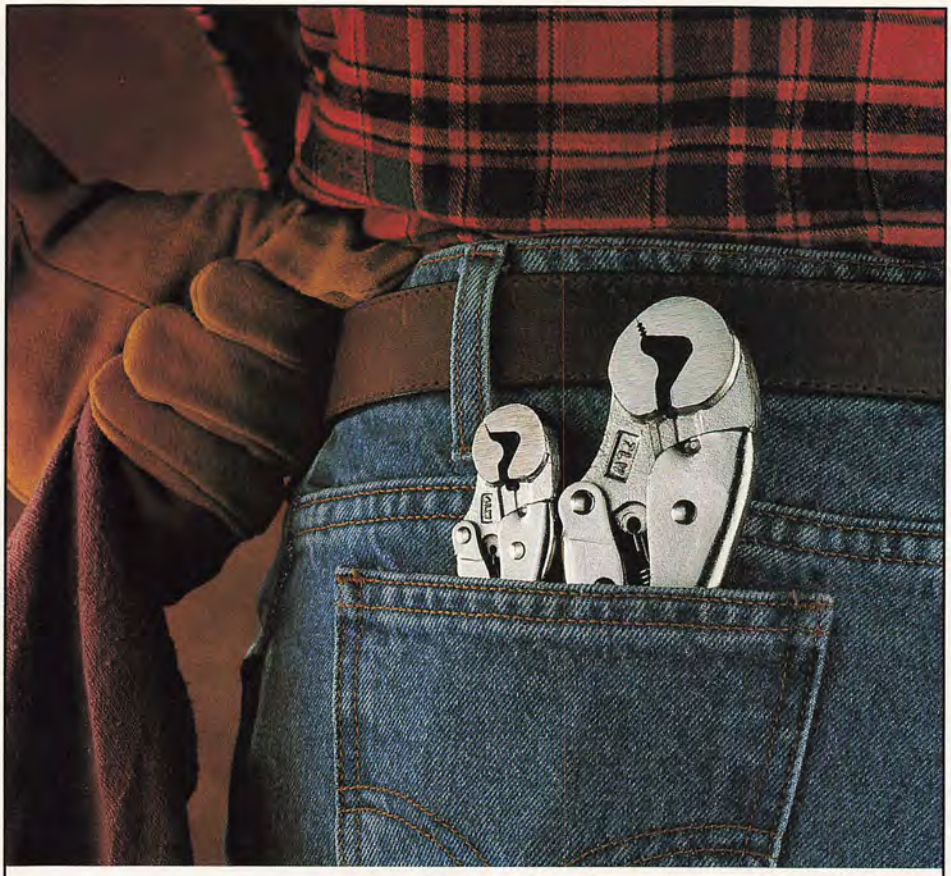

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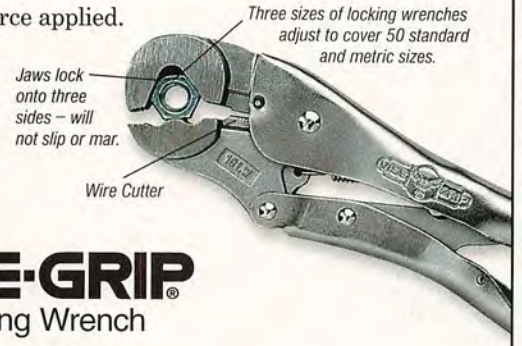

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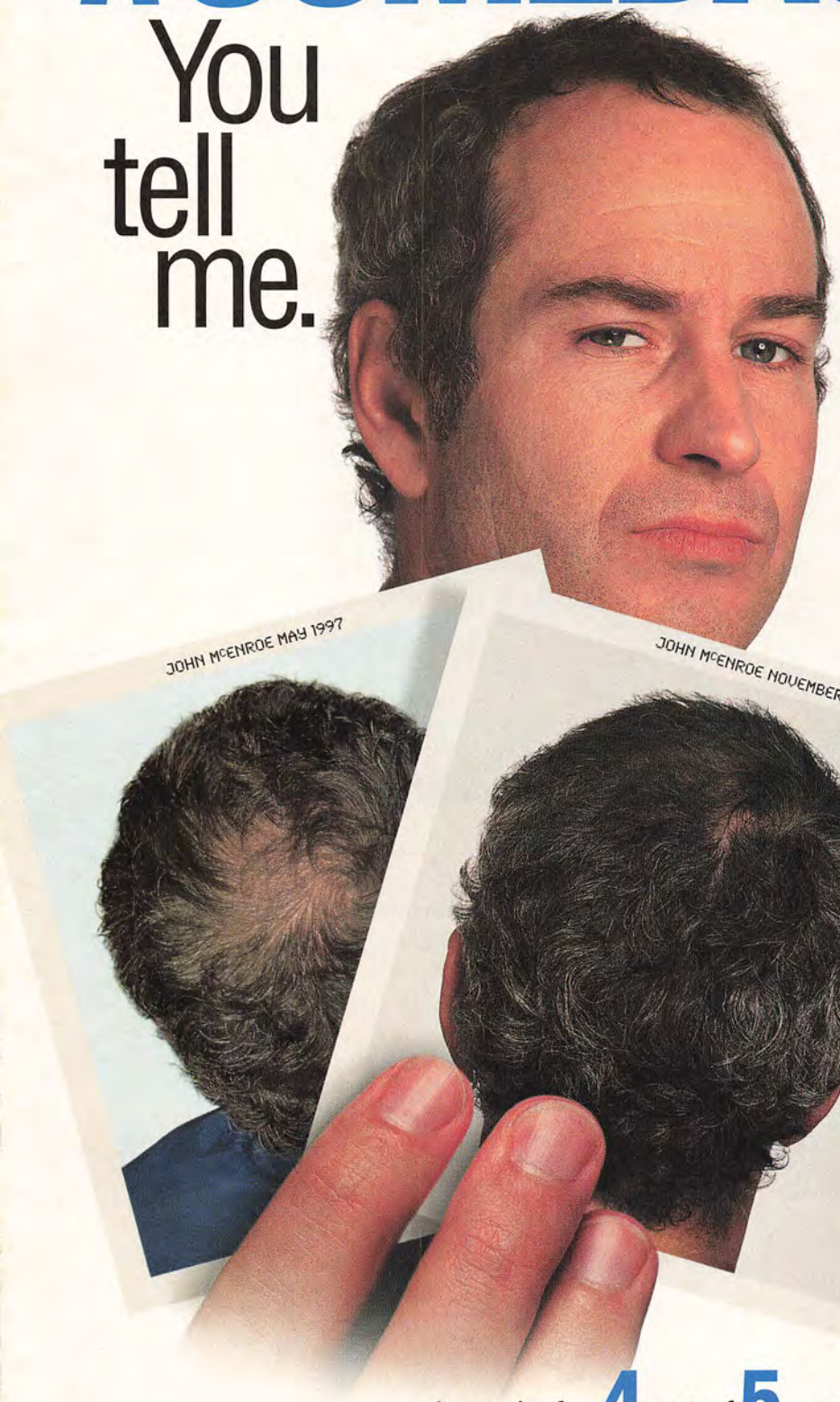
ABC

Did I MAKE A COMEBACK?

You tell me.



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Editor's Letter

I would enjoy listening to Keith Jackson for another season. I despise seeing 6–5 teams get bowl bids. Especially in the place of 7–4 teams.

I know the ads pay the bills, and that's why we are able to enjoy games on TV, but can't we do something about the laborious TV timeouts? While less noticeable from the recliner, the extended down time can be excruciating from the stands.

Is it just me, or have the corporate logos on the field at all the bowl games gone a little bit too far?

We have some ideas to fix these things.

With the help of Malcolm Moran of the *Chicago Tribune* we developed 13 ideas to make college football even more exciting than it is. There were a few more, like too many celebration penalties, but we didn't want to get too picky.

Don't misunderstand, we think college football is a grand game. But a little tweaking here and there wouldn't hurt.

The list begins on page 14. Send us your list of things you would change.

On to other important matters. Who is Athlon's choice for No. 1 this season? Tennessee? Florida State? Penn State? Arizona? Miami? Virginia Tech? **Check out the rankings to see how we have evaluated your favorite team beginning on page 24.**

After you've had a chance to chew on the preseason information, send us your predictions. Our deadline for taking you seriously is August 1.

Two schools move up to Division I-A this season: Buffalo and Middle Tennessee. Buffalo will compete in the Mid-American Conference and Middle Tennessee will play as an independent until a spot opens up in the SEC (just kidding).

In what has become an Athlon tradition, we have ranked the entire roster of 114 teams in the following pages.

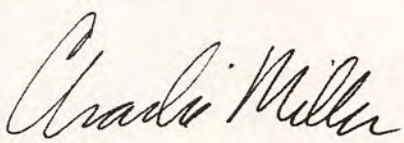
Of course, everything you need to follow your team this fall is here. Complete schedules, predictions, preseason all-star teams, recruiting analyses, depth charts and even some photos of the pageantry of the game.

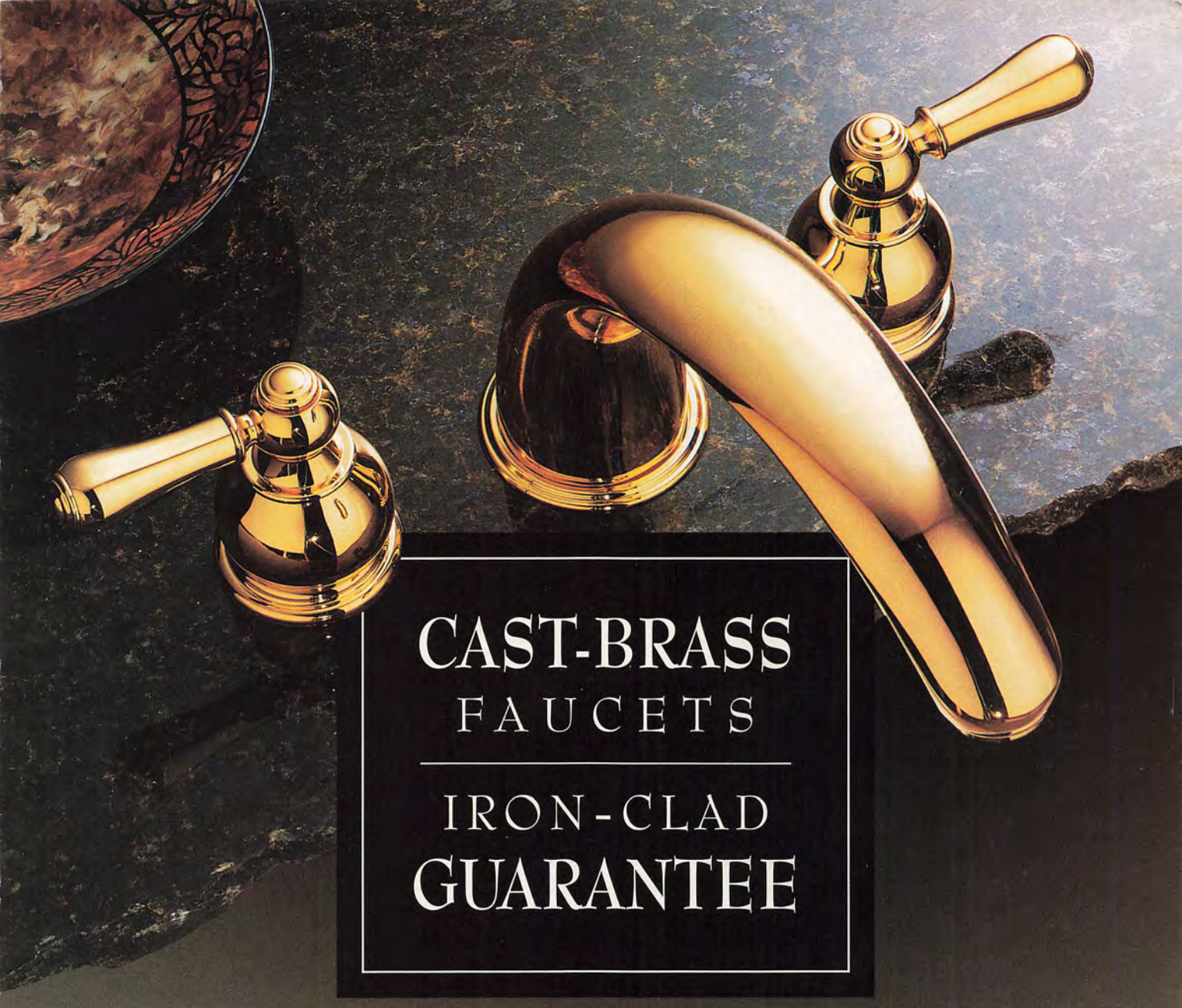
Vernon Biever

We know it will never happen, but wouldn't it be fun to watch the Super Bowl champions play the college All-Stars every summer at Soldier Field like they used to?

Enjoy the magazine and let us know what you think. Write or e-mail athlon@nashville.net. We love to hear from our readers.

Enjoy the season.





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Athlon® Sports™

Football EDITION

14 13 Ideas for Better Football
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by Malcolm Moran

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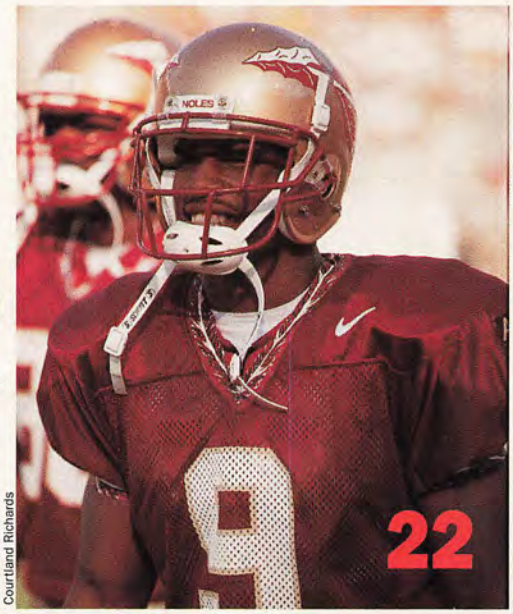

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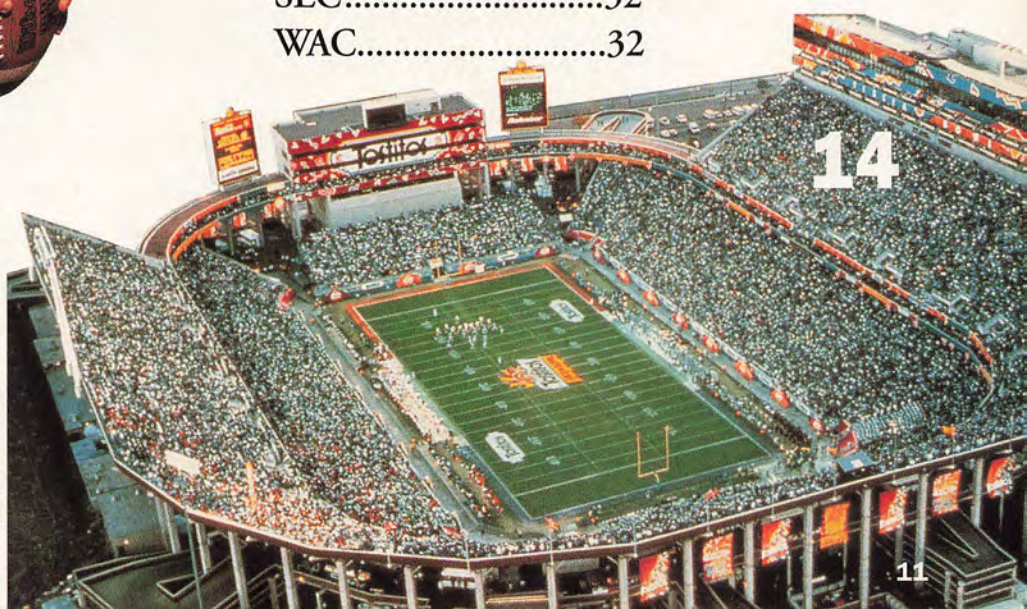

Tennessee SID

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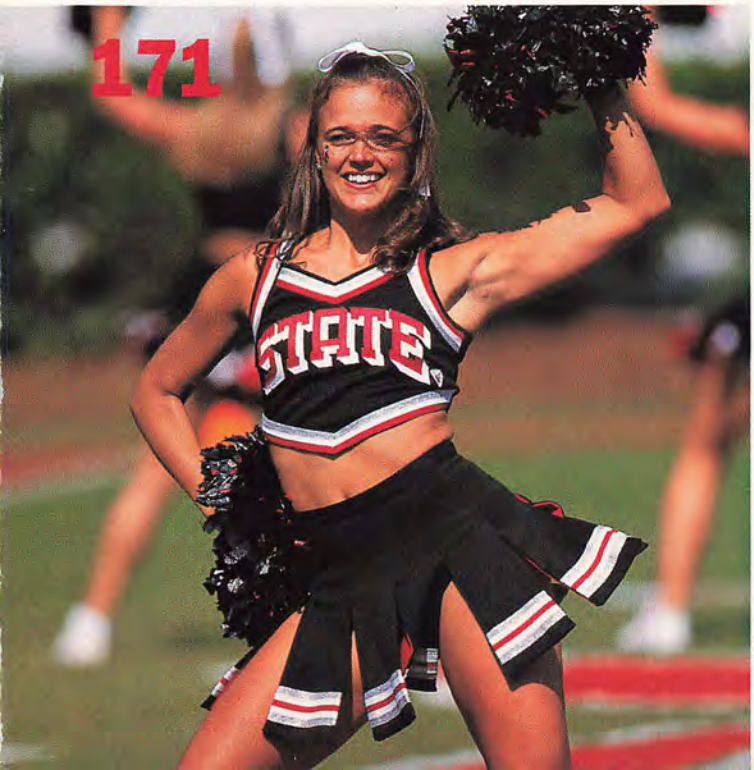

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13 Ideas

For Better Football

The game does not belong to Ricky Williams, although there were Heisman moments in Austin last fall when it sure seemed that way. It does not belong to Tee Martin, even after the quarterback of the Tennessee Volunteers celebrated a championship on that January night in Tempe. It does not belong to Joe Paterno, who has made the Happy Valley much happier, or Uga, the bold Georgia Bulldog, or Traveler, the great, white Trojan horse at Southern California, or the latest Ohio State tuba player to dot the "i" of the incomparable Script Ohio. The game belongs to none of them, because it belongs to all of us.

Think about it. Take away all those RVs in all those parking lots. Take away the people with the painted faces, the music and the passion, and what are you left with? The spring game.

Football's spectacle is for autumn, even with all its imperfections. In the spirit of our small stake in that spectacle, we offer 13 changes — some wishful thinking, others more serious — to make those Saturdays even better for everyone.

For starters, can somebody please do something about those corporate logos? Crab grass would look better. Mud would look better. Just compare your average BCS bowl to the other big-time college event, the Final Four. The look in the dome in St. Petersburg during the Final Four last March was patterned after the feel of The Masters. Advertisements are darkened or covered. The view of the competition is not overwhelmed by commercialism.

Now let's go to the stadium on New Year's Day. The field looks like downtown Atlanta during the 1996 Olympics. The midfield logos must not be large enough to send the desired message, so there are other logos on other parts of the field, the end zones, the stands, and don't forget the athletes. And what about that chips girl chasing Phil Fulmer after the Fiesta Bowl last year trying to have him hold some chips for the cameras? The NCAA sanctions these games. Maybe there could be a rule that says the substantial title sponsorship fee should not give a company the right to assault our senses.

On the subject of an athlete's rights (and no, this is not an oxymoron), there should be at least one adjustment in the national letter-of-intent system. When a coach departs after the February signing period, leaving the incoming players with a staff they have never met, the recruits should be given a period to consider their options without any penalty.

Since most available slots at major schools would be filled by then, the opportunities elsewhere would be limited, at best. But let's not kid ourselves. A coaching staff and its style of play is a major factor in the thinking of many recruits. If that factor changes dramatically, the player should have the freedom to choose another opportunity.

The most notable example is that of Darren Krein, a former defensive end at Miami. During his prep career in Colorado, Krein was heavily recruited and received what he perceived as an assurance by Jimmy Johnson that he would not leave the school for the Dallas Cowboys. Of course, Johnson did bolt in the spring, leaving Krein with an entire coaching staff of strangers. He was then forced to play for coaches he didn't know and for coaches that did not even recruit him.

"It's something that isn't very fair, the NCAA puts too much control over us. They do have to protect the school. But do you really go to the school for the school? Or do you go to the school for the football program or the coach?"
— Darren Krein, DE, Miami, 1989-93

Courtesy ABC Sports

We'll miss Keith Jackson. Somehow it's difficult to imagine enjoying the game quite as much with someone else calling the action.

Bring back K.J. Of course Keith Jackson has earned a peaceful autumn. He knew when to step away better than anyone — better than us, better than the amateur mimics whose well-intentioned "Whoa Nellie" threatened to turn him into the cartoon character that he wasn't.

In an era of gimmickry in his profession, Jackson maintained his individuality the old fashioned way, by keeping the focus on the game. In cramped booths high above the fields, he managed to capture the feeling of what was going on below in ways that technology could not. He never lost sight of the personalities. He did not become bogged down by Xs and Os. He understood the connection from game to game, week to week, year to year and place to place. The fun of going to campuses for those high-octane weekends had just one drawback — it was harder to hear what Keith Jackson had to say.

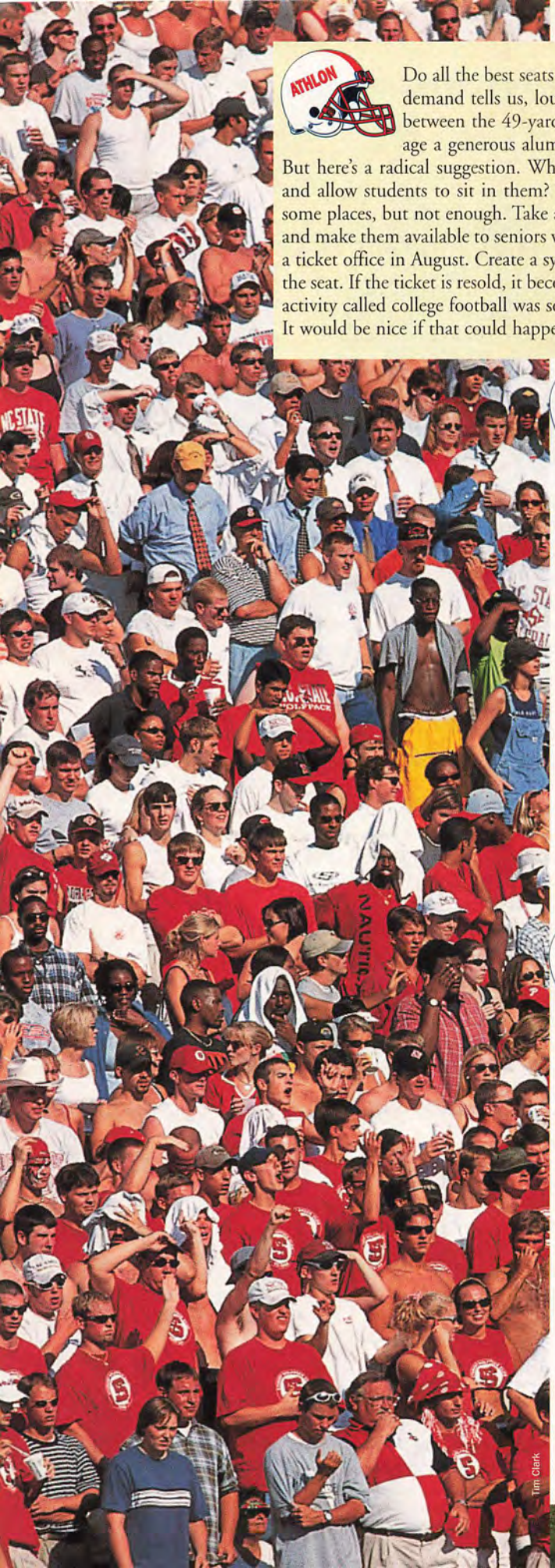
There is enough room after Labor Day and before Thanksgiving to complete an 11-game schedule. How about providing the players with a little more time to get on with their lives, or go about their academic business? Bye weeks offer nothing more than a few extra days to heal before preparation for the next game.

Begin the schedule the weekend after Labor Day, with the exception of the one preseason game. Football is a cool weather game for those of you who have never put on the pads. Games in August, and even early September, can be brutally hot.

Conclude it the weekend before Thanksgiving, with several possible exceptions. Allow schools to apply for waivers for the few rivalries that have been played over Thanksgiving weekend for a significant number of years. Play the conference championship games and Army-Navy on the first Saturday in December. Give the players a chance to go home to be thankful for a few precious days of rest.

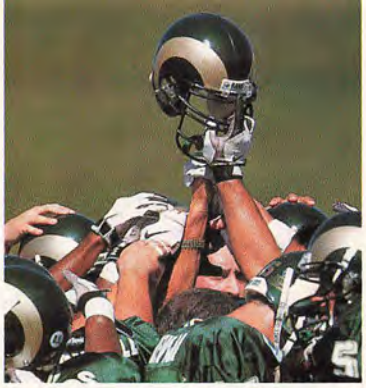
During the Pigskin Classic at the L.A. Coliseum on Aug. 30, temperatures on the field soared to 115 degrees and higher. That's too hot if you're wearing a helmet. That's too hot for the water boy.

Peter Brouillet



Tim Clark

Do all the best seats have to go to fat cats? Supply and demand tells us, loud and clear, that the lure of seats between the 49-yard lines may be enough to encourage a generous alumnus to make a healthy donation. But here's a radical suggestion. Why not take some of the best seats and allow students to sit in them? This practice actually happens in some places, but not enough. Take a block of tickets between the 40s and make them available to seniors who win a lottery, or camp outside a ticket office in August. Create a system that connects the student to the seat. If the ticket is resold, it becomes void. Once upon a time, this activity called college football was somehow linked to student bodies. It would be nice if that could happen again.



John Hudetz

Colorado State players were excited after an eight-win season. But TCU, Washington and Ole Miss played in bowl games with 6–5 records.

Remember the time when going to a bowl game was considered an achievement? We now hear the term that tells us all we need to know: Bowl-eligible, which can be defined as a fraction above mediocrity.

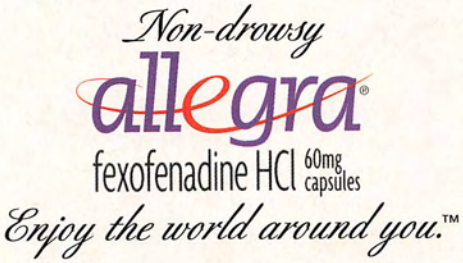
A 6–5 season is just not worthy of a bowl. And if the purpose is to collect a payout, let's face it, when expenses are deducted, we're not talking about enough money to justify a meaningless game. The solution is simple. The minimum should be seven Division I-A victories. A 7–4 record means a winning percentage of .636, an accomplishment that justifies a postseason trip. Four losses provide more than enough latitude for a team to overcome injury problems, salvage a season and earn a reward. And if setting the bar higher means that there wouldn't be enough teams to fill a bowl schedule, maybe we should take the hint.

Peter Broullet

How many times have we seen this happen: A team is coming from behind, intensifies its momentum by forcing a three-and-out and a punt, the offense comes on to the field, and . . .

Everyone waits.

And waits. And waits. And waits. An official stands over the ball, the offense is sent back into the huddle, and 90,000 people wait for the peddling of some sport utility vehicle. Now this is not an attack on television's need to conduct its business, just a request to be less obtrusive. Timeouts do not have to last so long. Games do not have to approach four hours in length. Better flow can lead to more action, which can create a better product, which can sell more SUVs. Please keep the game moving.



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PRECAUTIONS

Drug Interactions
In two separate studies, fexofenadine hydrochloride 120 mg twice daily (twice the recommended dose) was co-administered with erythromycin 500 mg every 8 hours or ketoconazole 400 mg once daily under steady-state conditions to normal, healthy volunteers (n=24, each study). No differences in adverse events or QTc interval were observed when subjects were administered fexofenadine hydrochloride alone or in combination with erythromycin or ketoconazole. The findings of these studies are summarized in the following table:

Effects on Steady-State Fexofenadine Pharmacokinetics After 7 Days of Co-Administration with Fexofenadine Hydrochloride 120 mg Every 12 Hours (twice recommended dose) in Normal Volunteers (n=24)

Concomitant Drug	$C_{max,SS}$ *(Peak plasma concentration)*	$AUC_{SS}(0\text{-}12h)$ *(Extent of systemic exposure)*
Erythromycin (500 mg every 8 hrs)	+82%	+109%
Ketoconazole (400 mg once daily)	+135%	+164%

The mechanisms of these interactions are unknown, and the potential for interaction with other azole antifungal or macrolide agents has not been studied. These changes in plasma levels were within the range of plasma levels achieved in adequate and well-controlled clinical trials. Fexofenadine had no effect on the pharmacokinetics of erythromycin or ketoconazole.

Carcinogenesis, Mutagenesis, Impairment of Fertility
The carcinogenic potential and reproductive toxicity of fexofenadine hydrochloride were assessed using terfenadine studies with adequate fexofenadine exposure (based on plasma area-under-the-curve [AUC] values). No evidence of carcinogenicity was observed when mice and rats were given daily oral doses of 50 and 150 mg/kg of terfenadine for 18 and 24 months, respectively; these doses resulted in plasma AUC values of fexofenadine that were up to four times the human therapeutic value (based on a 60-mg twice-daily fexofenadine hydrochloride dose).
In in-vitro (Bacterial Reverse Mutation, CHO/HGPRT Forward Mutation, and Rat Lymphocyte Chromosomal Aberration assays) and in-vivo (Mouse Bone Marrow Micronucleus assay) tests, fexofenadine hydrochloride revealed no evidence of mutagenicity.
In rat fertility studies, dose-related reductions in implants and increases in postimplantation losses were observed at oral doses equal to or greater than 150 mg/kg of terfenadine; these doses produced plasma AUC values of fexofenadine that were equal to or greater than three times the human therapeutic value (based on a 60-mg twice-daily fexofenadine hydrochloride dose).

Pregnancy
Teratogenic Effects: Category C. There was no evidence of teratogenicity in rats or rabbits at oral terfenadine doses up to 300 mg/kg; these doses produced fexofenadine plasma AUC values that were up to 4 and 37 times the human therapeutic value (based on a 60-mg twice-daily fexofenadine hydrochloride dose), respectively.
There are no adequate and well-controlled studies in pregnant women. Fexofenadine hydrochloride should be used during pregnancy only if the potential benefit justifies the potential risk to the fetus.
Nonteratogenic Effects. Dose-related decreases in pup weight gain and survival were observed in rats exposed to oral doses equal to and greater than 150 mg/kg of terfenadine; at these doses the plasma AUC values of fexofenadine were equal to or greater than 3 times the human therapeutic values (based on a 60-mg twice-daily fexofenadine hydrochloride dose).

Nursing Mothers
There are no adequate and well-controlled studies in women during lactation. Because many drugs are excreted in human milk, caution should be exercised when fexofenadine hydrochloride is administered to a nursing woman.

Pediatric Use
Safety and effectiveness of ALLEGRA in pediatric patients under the age of 12 years have not been established. Across well-controlled clinical trials in patients with seasonal allergic rhinitis, a total of 205 patients between the ages of 12 to 16 years received doses ranging from 20 mg to 240 mg twice daily for up to two weeks. Adverse events were similar in this group compared to patients above the age of 16 years.

Geriatric Use
In placebo-controlled trials, 42 patients, age 60 to 68 years, received doses of 20 mg to 240 mg of fexofenadine twice daily for up to two weeks. Adverse events were similar in this group to patients under age 60 years.

ADVERSE REACTIONS
In placebo-controlled clinical trials, which included 2461 patients receiving fexofenadine hydrochloride at doses of 20 mg to 240 mg twice daily, adverse events were similar in fexofenadine hydrochloride and placebo-treated patients. The incidence of adverse events, including drowsiness, was not dose related and was similar across subgroups defined by age, gender, and race. The percent of patients who withdrew prematurely because of adverse events was 2.2% with fexofenadine hydrochloride vs 3.3% with placebo. All adverse events that were reported by greater than 1% of patients who received the recommended daily dose of fexofenadine hydrochloride (60 mg twice-daily), and that were more common with fexofenadine than placebo, are listed in the following table.

Adverse Experiences Reported in Placebo-Controlled Seasonal Allergic Rhinitis Clinical Trials at Rates of Greater Than 1%

Adverse Experience	*Fexofenadine 60 mg Twice Daily (n=679)*	*Placebo Twice Daily (n=671)*
Viral Infection (cold, flu)	2.5%	1.5%
Nausea	1.6%	1.5%
Dysmenorrhea	1.5%	0.3%
Drowsiness	1.3%	0.9%
Dyspepsia	1.3%	0.6%
Fatigue	1.3%	0.9%

Adverse events occurring in greater than 1% of fexofenadine hydrochloride-treated patients (60 mg twice daily), but that were more common in the placebo-treated group, include headache and throat irritation.
The frequency and magnitude of laboratory abnormalities were similar in fexofenadine hydrochloride and placebo-treated patients.

Prescribing Information as of April 1998
Hoechst Marion Roussel, Inc.
Kansas City, MO 64137 USA
98250203/0267A9

US Patents 4,254,129; 5,375,693; 5,578,610.

allb0498b

Hoechst Marion Roussel
The Pharmaceutical Company of Hoechst
Kansas City, MO 64134

Hoechst

The time has come to address the quartile problem for the Bowl Championship Series. The organizers of the BCS were lucky the system did not collapse under the weight of all those numbers last December. The solution is not additional numbers, but adding a little common sense.

Here's an answer: Take those printouts and place them in the hands of a respected, geographically balanced committee similar to the one that seeds teams in the NCAA basketball tournament. Lock those people in a hotel suite during the conference championship weekend, and let them add a sense of fairness and reason to the numbers and the polls.

If an AD or commissioner had a connection to a team under consideration, the official would leave the room for that portion of the conversation. Involve people no longer directly related to the game. Take advantage of the insight of Tom Osborne, or Ara Parseghian, or Don James.

Let a committee create a ranking before the numbers mess one up.

One other necessary adjustment for the BCS folks to remember. In the hearts of the people that watch the games, the college football season ends on New Year's Night. If you want to stretch things to a championship game on Jan. 2, in order to set it apart and increase the anticipation, fine. But January 4th? The feel of the event is deteriorating, and fast.

This past January as fans walked through the hotel lobby, they had to step around cardboard boxes that had been placed there for the removal of holiday decorations. The drive to Sun Devil Stadium was through work-day traffic. New Year's Eve was a distant memory. The holiday season was long gone.

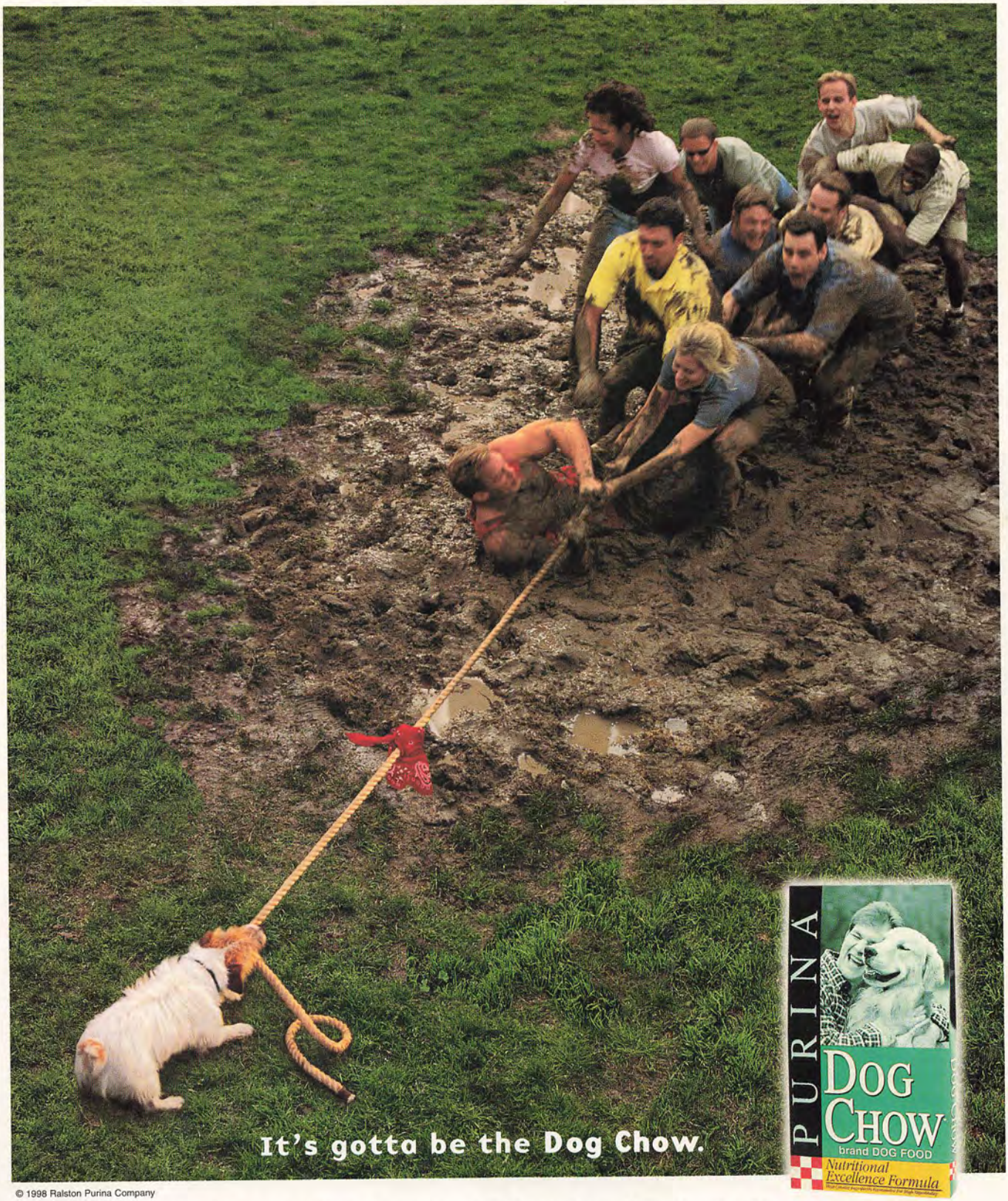
Dec. 31 1998	
9:00	New Year's Eve Party at David and Kimberly's
Jan 1, 1999	
10:30	Breakfast with David and Kim
Noon	Bowl party at the Jenkins (All day)
7:00	Lynn coming over for Ohio State game
Jan 2, 1999	
10:00ish	Brunch with Brock and Andrea
2:00	Hannah's basketball game
7:30	Orange Bowl
Jan 3, 1999	
12:00	Lunch with Dosters after church
Jan 4, 1999	
9:00-11:00	Staff Meeting
2:00	Budget Meeting
3:30	Pick up kids from school
4:00-6:00	Client briefing with Tom and Geoffrey
7:30	Fiesta Bowl

Typical holiday daytimer.

This suggestion has no chance, but this is our list and we're sticking to it. Bring back the College All-Star Game, the summertime matchup between the best outgoing college players and the defending National Football League champion. Return it to Soldier Field, scene of what once was one of the most anticipated sporting events in the nation. Pay all the players enough to make the experience worthwhile. Direct the proceeds toward charities that can make the event relevant again. And before the agents start screaming about the dangers, have an insurance company — How's that for a title sponsor? — protect everyone's future.

Late in the life of this game, the college All-Stars wore helmets representing their future pro teams.

Vernon Biever



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Classic Kickoffs

1983	#1 Nebraska	44	#4 Penn State	6	71,123
1984	#10 Miami	20	#1 Auburn	18	51,131
1985	#10 BYU	28	NR Boston Coll.	14	51,227
1986	#5 Alabama	16	#9 Ohio State	10	68,296
1987	#17 Tennessee	23	#16 Iowa	22	54,681
1988	#2 Nebraska	23	#10 Texas A&M	14	58,172
1989	#2 Notre Dame	36	NR Virginia	13	77,323
1990	#9 USC	34	NR Syracuse	16	57,293
1991	#7 Penn State	34	#8 Georgia Tech	22	77,409
1992	NR NC State	24	#16 Iowa	14	46,251
1993	#1 Florida State	42	NR Kansas	0	51,734
1994	#4 Nebraska	31	#24 W. Va.	0	58,233
1995	#12 Ohio State	38	#22 Boston Coll.	6	62,711
1996	#11 Penn State	24	#7 USC	7	77,716
1997	#17 Syracuse	34	#24 Wisconsin	0	51,185
1998	#2 Florida State	23	#14 Texas A&M	14	59,232

Sixteen years ago, the idea of the Kickoff Classic seemed perfect — a high-profile showcase to build a bridge between the end of the past season and the start of the next. The game was born on what was once New Jersey swampland, and when the matchup was right, the season had a focus from the start.

But then came another game, and another and another and another, so many that now most of these alleged Classics have become glorified scrimmages, little more than opportunities to put cash registers to work in August. The glut of exempted games will soon mean the elimination of them all, which brings us back to the original idea. Have one game. Have it at the Meadowlands, or rotate it among northern, non-bowl sites (preferably with good restaurants nearby). Three nominees: Giants Stadium, Soldier Field, and the stadium formerly known as Candlestick Park.

Athlon Archives

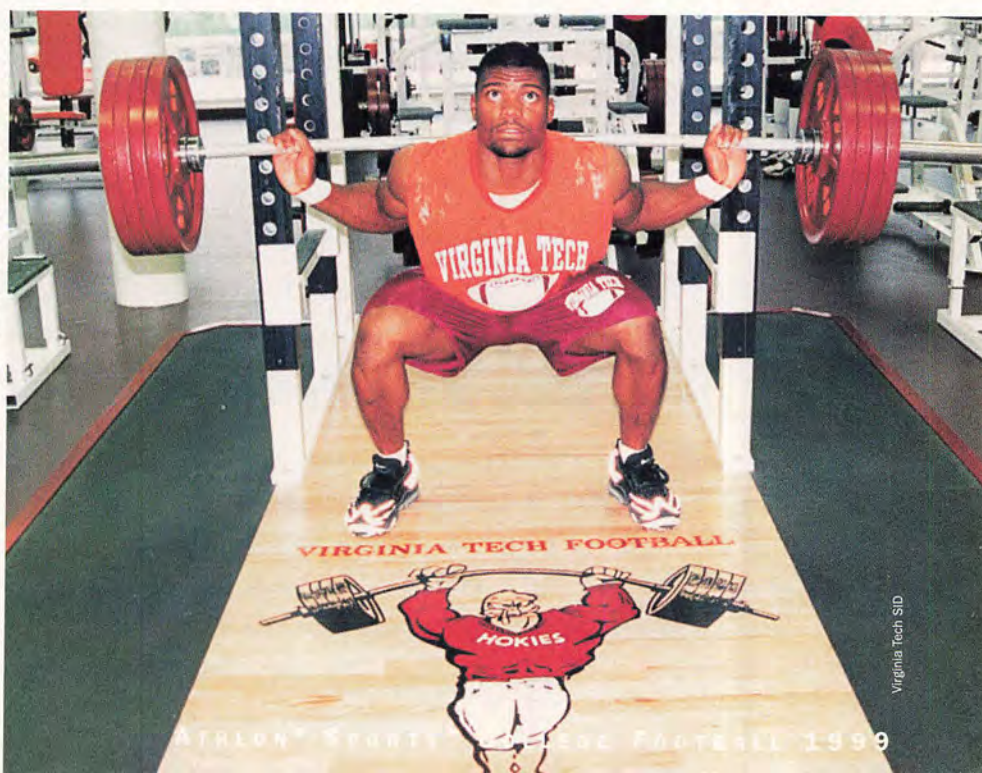
Was the fumblerooski really so evil? Before the play was ruled illegal in 1993, it offered precise deception, the element of shock and, when executed properly, the remarkable sight of an enormous ballcarrier in the open field. Was it too effective? Was it too much fun? Can we please see it again?

College football needs players like Mark Hutson of Oklahoma, shown here from the 1988 Orange Bowl, rumblin', stumblin' . . .

"Unofficial," and "voluntary," are misnomers for summer workouts, keeping players on campus (and in the weight room) year-round.

Does college football really have to be a 12-month business? OK, 11 1/2 months, not counting the two or three days each semester that players are given to prepare for final examinations. Each year, players from a contending team will talk about the collective spirit that resulted from so-called voluntary practices. And each year, the question is raised: Shouldn't these people have a chance to do something else once in a while?

The answer is simple. Shut it down. Mandate a healthy chunk of time during the summer when campus facilities are not available. If a player wants to go to a gym in his hometown, or go back to his high school and run for hour after hour, that's his business. But the unofficially mandatory summertime grind is too much for athletes who already give up much too much of their lives.



Virginia Tech SID

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Athlon's 1999 All-America TEAM

FIRST TEAM

OFFENSE

WR	Peter Warrick	6'0"	190	Sr.	Florida State
WR	R. Jay Soward	5'11"	175	Sr.	USC
TE	Ibn Green	6'2"	225	Sr.	Louisville
OL	Rob Murphy	6'5"	300	Sr.	Ohio State
OL	Steve Hutchinson	6'5"	296	Jr.	Michigan
OL	Cosey Coleman	6'5"	315	Jr.	Tennessee
OL	Jason Whitaker	6'5"	300	Sr.	Florida State
OL	Travis Claridge	6'6"	310	Sr.	USC
QB	Drew Brees	6'1"	212	Jr.	Purdue
RB	Ron Dayne	5'10"	253	Sr.	Wisconsin
RB	Ricky Williams	5'9"	190	Jr.	Texas Tech

DEFENSE

DL	Corey Simon	6'4"	275	Sr.	Florida State
DL	Ennis Davis	6'4"	295	Jr.	USC
DL	Adalius Thomas	6'4"	252	Sr.	Southern Miss
DL	Corey Moore	6'0"	212	Sr.	Virginia Tech
LB	Rob Morris	6'2"	250	Sr.	BYU
LB	Mark Simoneau	6'0"	240	Sr.	Kansas State
LB	LaVar Arrington	6'3"	230	Jr.	Penn State
DB	Tyrone Carter	5'9"	184	Sr.	Minnesota
DB	Mario Edwards	6'2"	195	Sr.	Florida State
DB	Jamar Fletcher	5'10"	167	So.	Wisconsin
DB	Ralph Brown	5'10"	180	Sr.	Nebraska

SPECIALISTS

KR	Dez White	6'1"	214	Jr.	Georgia Tech
PR	David Allen	5'9"	195	Jr.	Kansas State
K	Sebastian Janikowski	6'2"	255	Jr.	Florida St.
P	Shane Lechler	6'2"	220	Sr.	Texas A&M

SECOND TEAM

OFFENSE

WR	Sherrod Gideon	6'0"	176	Sr.	Southern Miss
WR	Anthony Lucas	6'3"	198	Sr.	Arkansas
TE	Daniel Franks	6'6"	245	Jr.	Miami
OL	Chris McIntosh	6'7"	307	Sr.	Wisconsin
OL	Noel LaMontagne	6'5"	302	Sr.	Virginia
OL	Chris Samuels	6'6"	294	Sr.	Alabama
OL	Rob Riti	6'3"	289	Sr.	Missouri
OL	Richard Mercier	6'2"	290	Sr.	Miami
QB	Joe Hamilton	5'10"	189	Sr.	Georgia Tech
RB	Michael Wiley	6'0"	195	Sr.	Ohio State
RB	Trung Canidate	5'11"	199	Sr.	Arizona

DEFENSE

DL	Leonardo Carson	6'3"	282	Sr.	Auburn
DL	Chris Hovan	6'3"	285	Sr.	Boston College
DL	Kabeer Gbaja-Biamila	6'4"	235	Sr.	San Diego St.
DL	Courtney Brown	6'5"	270	Sr.	Penn State
LB	Raynoch Thompson	6'3"	217	Sr.	Tennessee
LB	Dan Morgan	6'2"	230	Jr.	Miami
LB	Marcus Bell	6'2"	230	Sr.	Arizona
DB	Jarrod Cooper	6'1"	205	Jr.	Kansas State
DB	Lloyd Harrison	5'11"	193	Sr.	NC State
DB	David Macklin	5'9"	199	Sr.	Penn State
DB	Deon Grant	6'3"	205	Jr.	Tennessee

SPECIALISTS

KR	Broderick McGrew	6'3"	204	Sr.	North Texas
PR	Damon Gourdine	5'7"	160	Sr.	San Diego State
K	Nathan Villegas	5'9"	165	Sr.	Oregon
P	Kevin Stemke	6'2"	186	Jr.	Wisconsin

THIRD TEAM

OFFENSE

WR	Arnold Jackson	5'8"	160	Sr.	Louisville
WR	Danny Farmer	6'4"	210	Sr.	UCLA
TE	Anthony Becht	6'6"	265	Sr.	West Virginia
OL	Manuia Savea	6'3"	280	Sr.	Arizona
OL	Kareem McKenzie	6'7"	320	Jr.	Penn State
OL	Casey Rabach	6'5"	287	Jr.	Wisconsin
OL	Mike Malano	6'2"	300	Sr.	San Diego State
OL	R. Johanningmeier	6'7"	310	Sr.	Colorado
QB	Tee Martin	6'3"	215	Sr.	Tennessee
RB	Jamal Lewis	6'0"	225	Jr.	Tennessee
RB	Travis Prentice	6'2"	228	Sr.	Miami (Ohio)

DEFENSE

DL	Darwin Walker	6'3"	290	Sr.	Tennessee
DL	Brian Young	6'4"	274	Sr.	UTEP
DL	Jabari Issa	6'6"	295	Sr.	Washington
DL	Darren Howard	6'4"	275	Sr.	Kansas State
LB	Na'il Diggs	6'4"	235	Jr.	Ohio State
LB	Sekou Sanyika	6'3"	235	Sr.	California
LB	Peter Sirmon	6'2"	246	Sr.	Oregon
DB	Mark Roman	6'0"	187	Sr.	LSU
DB	Pat Dennis	6'0"	203	Jr.	NE Louisiana
DB	Hank Poteat	6'0"	190	Sr.	Pittsburgh
DB	Daninelle Derricott	5'11"	170	Jr.	Marshall

SPECIALISTS

KR	Ben Kelly	5'10"	185	Jr.	Colorado
PR	Nick Davis	5'10"	174	So.	Wisconsin
K	Ryan White	5'10"	183	So.	Memphis
P	Craig Jarrett	6'2"	208	So.	Michigan State

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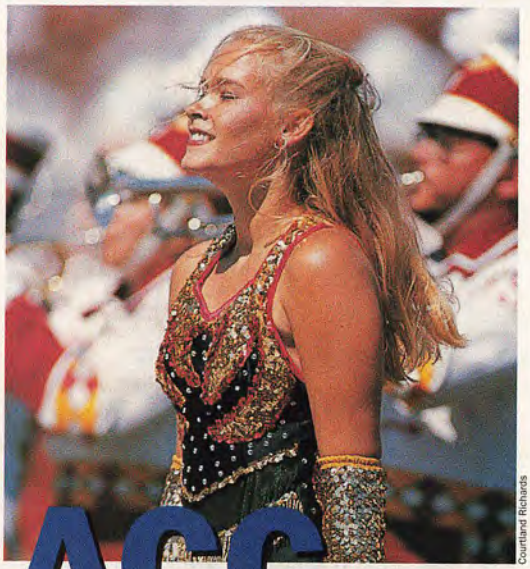
Athlon's preseason rankings

1. Florida State
2. Penn State
3. Tennessee
4. Arizona
5. Texas A&M
6. Virginia Tech
7. Michigan
8. Wisconsin
9. Georgia Tech
10. Nebraska
11. USC
12. Alabama
13. Georgia
14. Miami
15. Ohio State
16. Colorado
17. Florida
18. Notre Dame
19. Virginia
20. BYU
21. Texas
22. UCLA
23. Kansas State
24. Arkansas
25. Louisville
26. Arizona State
27. TCU
28. Purdue
29. Michigan State
30. San Diego State
31. Syracuse
32. LSU
33. Ole Miss
34. West Virginia
35. Southern Miss
36. Marshall
37. Idaho
38. Western Michigan
39. Oregon
40. Utah
41. Minnesota
42. California
43. Kansas
44. Houston
45. Nevada
46. Auburn
47. Miami (Ohio)
48. Indiana
49. East Carolina
50. Boston College
51. North Carolina
52. Texas Tech
53. Air Force
54. South Carolina
55. Oklahoma State
56. Washington
57. Mississippi State
58. Oklahoma
59. NC State
60. Rice
61. Illinois
62. Stanford
63. Baylor
64. Wyoming
65. Maryland
66. Missouri
67. Rutgers
68. Iowa
69. Vanderbilt
70. Clemson
71. Kentucky
72. Louisiana Tech
73. Toledo
74. UCF
75. Tulane
76. SMU
77. Oregon State
78. Iowa State
79. Washington State
80. Northwestern
81. Wake Forest
82. Bowling Green
83. Colorado State
84. Memphis
85. Duke
86. Central Michigan
87. Fresno State
88. Temple
89. Eastern Michigan
90. NE Louisiana
91. Pittsburgh
92. Tulsa
93. Army
94. Navy
95. New Mexico
96. Boise State
97. Utah State
98. Cincinnati
99. Ohio
100. UTEP
101. San Jose State
102. Northern Illinois
103. North Texas
104. New Mexico State
105. Akron
106. Arkansas State
107. Hawaii
108. UAB
109. UNLV
110. Kent
111. USL
112. Ball State
113. Middle Tennessee
114. Buffalo

conference predictions



Courtland Richards

ACC Order of Finish Predicted

1. Florida State
2. Georgia Tech
3. Virginia
4. North Carolina
5. NC State
6. Maryland
7. Clemson
8. Wake Forest
9. Duke

OFFENSE

WR	Peter Warrick	6'0"	190	Sr.	Florida State
WR	Dez White	6'1"	214	Jr.	Georgia Tech
TE	Casey Crawford	6'6"	250	Sr.	Virginia
OL	Jon Carman	6'8"	335	Sr.	Georgia Tech
OL	Ross Brannon	6'8"	305	Jr.	Florida State
OL	Jason Whitaker	6'5"	300	Sr.	Florida State
OL	Noel LaMontagne	6'5"	302	Sr.	Virginia
OL	John St. Clair	6'5"	295	Sr.	Virginia
QB	Joe Hamilton	5'10"	189	Sr.	Georgia Tech
RB	Thomas Jones	5'10"	205	Sr.	Virginia
RB	Travis Minor	6'1"	190	Jr.	Florida State

DEFENSE

DL	Corey Simon	6'4"	275	Sr.	Florida State
DL	Chris Combs	6'6"	275	Sr.	Duke
DL	Jerry Johnson	6'2"	280	Sr.	Florida State
DL	Felipe Claybrooks	6'4"	248	Jr.	Georgia Tech
LB	Brandon Spoon	6'2"	240	Sr.	North Carolina
LB	Brian Allen	6'2"	225	Jr.	Florida State
LB	Byron Thweatt	6'2"	230	Jr.	Virginia
DB	Mario Edwards	6'2"	195	Sr.	Florida State
DB	Tay Cody	5'11"	180	Jr.	Florida State
DB	Robert Carswell	6'0"	208	Jr.	Clemson
DB	Lloyd Harrison	5'11"	193	Sr.	NC State

SPECIALISTS

KR	Dez White	6'1"	214	Jr.	Georgia Tech
PR	Travis Zachery	6'0"	191	So.	Clemson
K	Sebastian Janikowski	6'2"	255	Jr.	Florida State
P	Brian Schmitz	6'0"	165	Sr.	North Carolina

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Tim Cammett

Big East

Predicted

Order of Finish

1. Virginia Tech
2. Miami
3. Syracuse
4. West Virginia
5. Boston College
6. Rutgers
7. Temple
8. Pittsburgh

Preseason All-Big East Team

OFFENSE

WR	Latef Grim	6'0"	185	Jr.	Pittsburgh
WR	Santana Moss	5'11"	175	Jr.	Miami
OL	Mark Baniewicz	6'6"	282	Sr.	Syracuse
OL	Richard Mercier	6'2"	290	Sr.	Miami
OL	Shaun O'Hara	6'4"	280	Sr.	Rutgers
OL	Theo Ross	6'4"	287	Sr.	Temple
OL	Paul Zukauskas	6'5"	306	Jr.	Boston College
TE	Daniel Franks	6'6"	245	Jr.	Miami
QB	Marc Bulger	6'3"	210	Sr.	West Virginia
RB	Shyrone Stith	5'8"	203	Jr.	Virginia Tech
RB	Jacki Crooks	5'10"	205	Sr.	Rutgers

DEFENSE

DL	Chris Hovan	6'3"	285	Sr.	Boston College
DL	Corey Moore	6'0"	212	Sr.	Virginia Tech
DL	John Engelberger	6'4"	269	Sr.	Virginia Tech
DL	Wayne Hampton	6'5"	250	Sr.	Rutgers
LB	Dan Morgan	6'2"	230	Jr.	Miami
LB	Barrett Green	6'1"	215	Sr.	West Virginia
LB	Nate Webster	6'0"	225	Jr.	Miami
CB	Hank Poteat	6'0"	190	Sr.	Pittsburgh
CB	Leonard Myers	6'0"	175	Jr.	Miami
S	Pedro Cirino	5'11"	191	Sr.	Boston College
S	Edward Reed	6'0"	185	So.	Miami

SPECIALISTS

P	Jimmy Kibble	5'10"	189	Sr.	Virginia Tech
PK	Nate Trout	5'9"	179	Sr.	Syracuse
PR	Tosh Riddick	5'10"	175	So.	Rutgers
KR	Elmarko Jackson	5'11"	205	Sr.	Temple

Big Ten

Predicted

Order of Finish

1. Penn State
2. Michigan
3. Wisconsin
4. Ohio State
5. Purdue
6. Michigan St.
7. Minnesota
8. Indiana
9. Illinois
10. Iowa
11. Northwestern

Al Kooistra

Preseason All-Big Ten Team

OFFENSE

WR	Plaxico Burress	6'6"	229	Jr.	Michigan State
WR	Randall Lane	6'1"	205	Sr.	Purdue
TE	Jay Tant	6'3"	254	Sr.	Northwestern
OL	Steve Hutchinson	6'5"	296	Jr.	Michigan
OL	Kareem McKenzie	6'7"	320	Jr.	Penn State
OL	Rob Murphy	6'5"	300	Sr.	Ohio State
OL	Chris McIntosh	6'7"	307	Sr.	Wisconsin
OL	Casey Rabach	6'5"	287	Jr.	Wisconsin
QB	Drew Brees	6'1"	212	Jr.	Purdue
RB	Michael Wiley	6'0"	195	Sr.	Ohio State
RB	Ron Dayne	5'10"	253	Sr.	Wisconsin

DEFENSE

DL	Robaire Smith	6'5"	269	Sr.	Michigan State
DL	Rob Renes	6'1"	288	Sr.	Michigan
DL	Courtney Brown	6'5"	270	Sr.	Penn State
DL	Adewale Ogunleye	6'4"	267	Sr.	Indiana
LB	Na'il Diggs	6'4"	235	Jr.	Ohio State
LB	LaVar Arrington	6'3"	230	Jr.	Penn State
LB	Brandon Short	6'3"	255	Sr.	Penn State
DB	David Macklin	5'9"	199	Sr.	Penn State
DB	Tyrone Carter	5'9"	184	Sr.	Minnesota
DB	Gary Berry	6'0"	195	Sr.	Ohio State
DB	Jamar Fletcher	5'10"	167	So.	Wisconsin

SPECIALISTS

KR	Tyrone Carter	5'9"	184	Sr.	Minnesota
PR	Nick Davis	5'10"	174	So.	Wisconsin
K	Paul Edinger	5'10"	168	Sr.	Michigan State
P	Kevin Stemke	6'2"	186	Jr.	Wisconsin

Big 12 Predicted

Order of Finish

North	South
1. Nebraska	1. Texas A&M
2. Colorado	2. Texas
3. Kansas State	3. Texas Tech
4. Kansas	4. Oklahoma St.
5. Missouri	5. Oklahoma
6. Iowa State	6. Baylor

Moses Olmos

Preseason All-Big 12 Team

OFFENSE

WR	Kwame Cavil	6'2"	200	Jr.	Texas
TE	Kyle Allamon	6'3"	256	Sr.	Texas Tech
OL	R. Johanningmeier	6'7"	310	Sr.	Colorado
OL	Rob Riti	6'3"	289	Sr.	Missouri
OL	Adam Davis	6'4"	290	Sr.	Oklahoma State
OL	Seth McKinney	6'3"	293	So.	Texas A&M
OL	Jonathan Gray	6'5"	357	Jr.	Texas Tech
QB	Tony Lindsay	6'2"	190	Jr.	Oklahoma State
RB	Ricky Williams	5'9"	190	Jr.	Texas Tech
RB	Nathan Simmons	5'10"	195	Sr.	Oklahoma State
RB	Darren Davis	5'8"	190	Sr.	Iowa State

DEFENSE

DL	Taurus Rucker	6'0"	252	Sr.	Texas Tech
DL	Darren Howard	6'4"	275	Sr.	Kansas State
DL	Casey Hampton	6'1"	300	Jr.	Texas
DL	Jeff Marriott	6'5"	300	Sr.	Missouri
LB	Mark Simoneau	6'0"	240	Sr.	Kansas State
LB	Kenyatta Wright	6'1"	245	Sr.	Oklahoma State
LB	Eric Johnson	6'1"	205	Sr.	Nebraska
DB	Ralph Brown	5'10"	180	Sr.	Nebraska
DB	Lamar Chapman	6'0"	175	Sr.	Kansas State
DB	Jarrod Cooper	6'1"	205	Jr.	Kansas State
DB	Jason Webster	5'9"	178	Sr.	Texas A&M

SPECIALISTS

KR	Ben Kelly	5'10"	185	Jr.	Colorado
PR	David Allen	5'9"	195	Jr.	Kansas State
K	Jeremy Aldrich	5'11"	170	Sr.	Colorado
P	Shane Lechler	6'2"	220	Sr.	Texas A&M

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Big West Predicted

Order of Finish

1. Idaho
2. Nevada
3. Boise State
4. Utah State
5. North Texas
6. New Mexico St.
7. Arkansas State

Idaho SID

Preseason All-Big West Team

OFFENSE

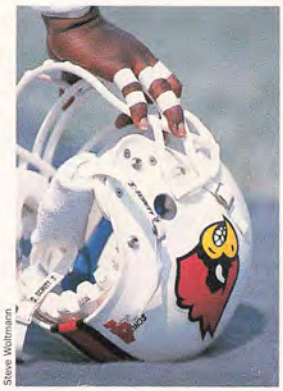
WR	Ryan Prestimonico	5'9"	177	Sr.	Idaho
WR	Trevor Insley	6'1"	195	Sr.	Nevada
TE	Darin Higgins	6'4"	225	Sr.	Nevada
OL	Keith Dilworth	6'5"	312	Sr.	Boise State
OL	Rick DeMulling	6'5"	269	Jr.	Idaho
OL	Ryan Scuffy	6'2"	285	Sr.	Nevada
OL	Jeremy Mankins	6'5"	324	Sr.	Boise State
OL	Jason Berger	6'3"	287	Sr.	New Mexico State
QB	David Neill	6'5"	200	So.	Nevada
RB	Chris Lemon	5'11"	200	Sr.	Nevada
RB	Ja'Quay Wilburn	5'10"	188	Jr.	North Texas

DEFENSE

DL	Corbin Montgomery	6'0"	247	Sr.	North Texas
DL	Tim Englehardt	6'2"	278	Jr.	New Mexico St.
DL	Rick Cross	6'4"	270	Sr.	Nevada
DL	Mao Tosi	6'6"	270	Jr.	Idaho
LB	Jason Burk	6'1"	235	Sr.	Nevada
LB	Brent Passey	6'1"	231	Jr.	Utah State
LB	Reggie Cooley	6'2"	210	Sr.	Arkansas State
DB	Dempsey Dees	5'10"	174	Jr.	Boise State
DB	Bryson Gardner	6'0"	200	Sr.	Idaho
DB	Maxzell Williams	5'11"	185	Sr.	Nevada
DB	Sean Mitchell	5'9"	190	Jr.	Arkansas State

SPECIALISTS

KR	Broderick McGrew	6'3"	204	Sr.	North Texas
PR	Vern Benard	5'8"	172	Jr.	Idaho
K	Brad Bohn	5'7"	177	Jr.	Utah State
P	Andy Kohl	6'4"	211	Jr.	New Mexico St.


Steve Woltmann

C-USA Predicted

Order of Finish

1. Louisville
2. Southern Miss
3. Houston
4. East Carolina
5. Tulane
6. Memphis
7. Army
8. Cincinnati
9. UAB

Preseason All-C-USA Team

OFFENSE

WR	Sherrod Gideon	6'0"	176	Sr.	Southern Miss
WR	Arnold Jackson	5'8"	160	Sr.	Louisville
TE	Ibn Green	6'2"	225	Sr.	Louisville
OL	Bernard Robertson	6'4"	285	Jr.	Tulane
OL	Shederick Blackmon	6'6"	324	Sr.	Southern Miss
OL	Doug Rosfeld	6'4"	272	Jr.	Cincinnati
OL	Jerry Godfrey	6'3"	290	Sr.	Tulane
OL	Mark Grivna	6'11"	335	Sr.	Louisville
QB	Chris Redman	6'3"	215	Sr.	Louisville
RB	Derrick Nix	6'1"	223	So.	Southern Miss
RB	Ketric Sanford	5'8"	202	Sr.	Houston

DEFENSE

DL	Adalius Thomas	6'4"	252	Sr.	Southern Miss
DL	Mike Gantous	6'2"	300	Sr.	Louisville
DL	Scott Kozak	6'2"	270	Sr.	Army
DL	Cedric Scott	6'5"	255	Sr.	Southern Miss
LB	Jeff Kerr	6'4"	235	Sr.	East Carolina
LB	T.J. Slaughter	6'2"	238	Sr.	Southern Miss
LB	Kamal Shakir	6'0"	229	Jr.	Memphis
DB	Antonio Roundtree	5'7"	180	Jr.	Louisville
DB	Mike James	6'0"	214	Sr.	Houston
DB	Danny Adams	5'10"	170	So.	Cincinnati
DB	Dwight Platt	5'11"	176	So.	UAB

SPECIALISTS

KR	Maurice Gallery	5'11"	180	So.	UAB
PR	Tinker Keck	6'1"	200	Sr.	Cincinnati
K	Ryan White	5'10"	183	So.	Memphis
P	Graham White	5'10"	179	Sr.	Army

MAC Predicted

Order of Finish

Rick Hoyt

East	West
1. Marshall	1. Western Michigan
2. Miami	2. Toledo
3. Bowling Green	3. Central Michigan
4. Ohio	4. Eastern Michigan
5. Akron	5. Northern Illinois
6. Kent	6. Ball State
7. Buffalo	

Preseason All-MAC Team

OFFENSE

WR	Jermaine Sheffield	6'5"	202	Sr.	Eastern Michigan
WR	Steve Neal	6'0"	187	Sr.	Western Michigan
OL	Mike Varone	6'3"	270	Sr.	Ohio
OL	Mike Guilliams	6'5"	305	Sr.	Marshall
OL	Charlie Knapp	6'5"	333	Sr.	Western Michigan
OL	Ryan Diem	6'7"	325	Jr.	Northern Illinois
OL	Colin Westrich	6'6"	300	Sr.	Toledo
TE	Jake Morland	6'3"	244	Sr.	Western Michigan
QB	Chad Pennington	6'4"	220	Sr.	Marshall
RB	Travis Prentice	6'1"	228	Sr.	Miami
RB	Doug Chapman	5'10"	220	Sr.	Marshall

DEFENSE

DL	Giradie Mercer	6'2"	285	Sr.	Marshall
DL	DeJuan Goulde	6'1"	235	Jr.	Toledo
DL	Ron Puggi	6'4"	245	Sr.	Marshall
LB	Dustin Cohen	6'4"	239	Sr.	Miami
LB	Jason Lamar	6'1"	235	Sr.	Toledo
LB	Marlon Llewellyn	5'11"	211	Sr.	Ball State
LB	John Grace	5'11"	205	Sr.	Marshall
DB	Rogers Beckett	6'3"	205	Sr.	Marshall
DB	Donald McCall	6'0"	190	Sr.	Eastern Michigan
DB	Daninelle Derricott	5'11"	170	Jr.	Marshall
DB	Lincoln Dupree	5'10"	186	Sr.	Eastern Michigan

SPECIALISTS

KR	Kahieem Maxwell	5'9"	180	Sr.	Ohio
PR	Steve Neal	6'0"	187	Sr.	Western Michigan
K	Brad Selent	5'11"	184	Jr.	Western Michigan
P	Dave Zastudil	6'4"	215	So.	Ohio

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December 31, 1999

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Dwight King

Mountain West Conference

Predicted Order of Finish

1. BYU
2. San Diego State
3. Utah
4. Air Force
5. Wyoming
6. Colorado State
7. New Mexico
8. UNLV

Preseason All-Mountain West Team

OFFENSE

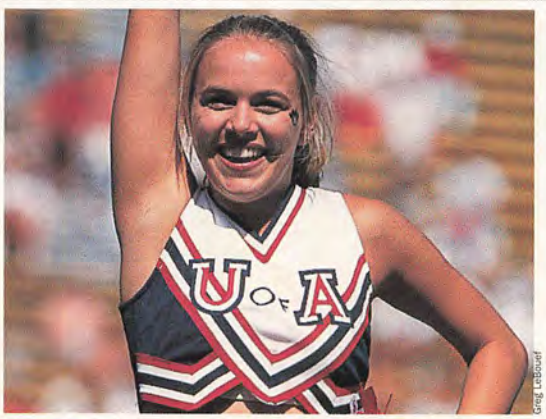
WR	Martinez Williams	Sr.	5'11"	165	New Mexico
WR	Wendell Montgomery	Sr.	6'2"	209	Wyoming
OL	Mike Malano	Sr.	6'2"	300	San Diego State
OL	James Norman	Sr.	6'3"	255	Air Force
OL	Mike Roberts	Sr.	6'4"	275	Air Force
OL	Jason Carson	Sr.	6'3"	299	New Mexico
OL	Blane Saipaia	Sr.	6'3"	303	Colorado State
TE	Sterling Kihei	Sr.	6'3"	227	Wyoming
QB	Kevin Feterik	Sr.	6'0"	190	BYU
RB	Mike Anderson	Sr.	6'2"	220	Utah
RB	Jonas Lewis	Sr.	5'9"	205	San Diego State

DEFENSE

DL	K. Gbaja-Biamila	Sr.	6'4"	235	San Diego State
DL	John Frank	Sr.	6'5"	271	Utah
DL	Byron Frisch	Sr.	6'5"	270	BYU
DL	Clark Haggans	Sr.	6'4"	235	Colorado State
LB	Rob Morris	Sr.	6'2"	250	BYU
LB	Kautai Olevao	Jr.	6'2"	240	Utah
LB	Rick Crowell	Sr.	6'3"	235	Colorado State
DB	Brian Urlacher	Sr.	6'4"	235	New Mexico
DB	Al Rich	Jr.	5'11"	190	Wyoming
DB	Rico Curtis	Sr.	6'0"	210	San Diego State
DB	Robbie Duncan	Sr.	5'9"	186	Wyoming

SPECIALISTS

K	Owen Pochman	Jr.	6'0"	160	BYU
P	Deone Horinek	Sr.	6'3"	240	Colorado State
PR	Damon Gourdine	Sr.	5'7"	160	San Diego State
KR	Duane James	So.	5'9"	185	UNLV


Greg LeBouef

Pac-10

Predicted Order of Finish

1. Arizona
2. USC
3. UCLA
4. Arizona State
5. Oregon
6. California
7. Washington
8. Stanford
9. Oregon State
10. Washington St.

Preseason All-Pac-10 Team

OFFENSE

WR	R. Jay Soward	5'11"	175	Sr.	USC
WR	Danny Farmer	6'4"	210	Sr.	UCLA
TE	Antoine Harris	6'4"	245	Jr.	USC
OL	Travis Claridge	6'6"	310	Sr.	USC
OL	John Romero	6'3"	315	Sr.	California
OL	Manuia Savea	6'3"	296	Sr.	Arizona
OL	Chad Ward	6'5"	315	Jr.	Washington
OL	Ryan Tujague	6'6"	294	Sr.	Washington State
QB	Ryan Kealy	6'2"	200	Jr.	Arizona State
RB	Trung Canidate	5'11"	199	Sr.	Arizona
RB	J.R. Redmond	6'0"	210	Sr.	Arizona State

DEFENSE

DL	Jabari Issa	6'6"	295	Sr.	Washington
DL	Ennis Davis	6'4"	295	Jr.	USC
DL	Andre Carter	6'4"	245	Jr.	California
LB	Sékou Sanyika	6'3"	235	Sr.	California
LB	Marcus Bell	6'2"	230	Sr.	Arizona
LB	DaShon Polk	6'2"	220	Sr.	Arizona
LB	Peter Sirmon	6'2"	246	Sr.	Oregon
DB	Ryan Roques	6'0"	180	Sr.	UCLA
DB	Lamont Thompson	6'1"	204	Jr.	Washington State
DB	Courtney Jackson	6'1"	190	Sr.	Arizona State
DB	Deltha O'Neal	5'11"	195	Sr.	California

SPECIALISTS

KR	Joe Jarzynka	5'7"	175	Sr.	Washington
PR	R. Jay Soward	5'11"	175	Sr.	USC
K	Nathan Villegas	5'9"	165	Sr.	Oregon
P	Stephen Baker	5'11"	185	So.	Arizona State

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Tim Clark

SEC

Predicted Order of Finish

East	West
1. Tennessee	1. Alabama
2. Georgia	2. Arkansas
3. Florida	3. LSU
4. South Carolina	4. Ole Miss
5. Vanderbilt	5. Auburn
6. Kentucky	6. Mississippi St.

Preseason All-SEC Team

OFFENSE

WR	Anthony Lucas	6'3"	198	Sr.	Arkansas
WR	Travis Taylor	6'1"	188	Jr.	Florida
TE	Joe Dean Davenport	6'7"	257	Sr.	Arkansas
OL	Cosey Coleman	6'5"	315	Jr.	Tennessee
OL	Chris Samuels	6'6"	294	Sr.	Alabama
OL	Chad Clifton	6'6"	320	Sr.	Tennessee
OL	Floyd Womack	6'3"	336	Jr.	Mississippi State
OL	Todd Wade	6'7"	320	Sr.	Ole Miss
QB	Tee Martin	6'3"	215	Sr.	Tennessee
RB	Jamal Lewis	6'0"	225	Jr.	Tennessee
RB	Shaun Alexander	6'1"	205	Sr.	Alabama

DEFENSE

DL	Leonardo Carson	6'3"	282	Sr.	Auburn
DL	Darwin Walker	6'3"	290	Sr.	Tennessee
DL	Kenny Smith	6'5"	286	Jr.	Alabama
LB	Raynoch Thompson	6'3"	217	Sr.	Tennessee
LB	Jamie Winborn	6'0"	232	So.	Vanderbilt
LB	Orantes Grant	6'1"	222	Sr.	Georgia
LB	Jeff Snedegar	6'2"	243	Sr.	Kentucky
DB	Deon Grant	6'3"	205	Jr.	Tennessee
DB	Mark Roman	6'0"	187	Sr.	LSU
DB	Dwayne Goodrich	6'0"	185	Sr.	Tennessee
DB	Kenoy Kennedy	6'1"	203	Sr.	Arkansas

SPECIALISTS

K	John Markham	6'1"	210	Jr.	Vanderbilt
P	Courtney Leavitt	5'11"	205	Sr.	South Carolina
KR	Jimmy Williams	5'10"	187	Jr.	Vanderbilt
PR	Cory Peterson	6'3"	195	Sr.	Ole Miss

Layne Murdoch

WAC

Predicted Order of Finish

1. TCU	5. Tulsa
2. Rice	6. UTEP
3. SMU	7. San Jose St.
4. Fresno State	8. Hawaii

Preseason All-WAC Team

OFFENSE

WR	Damon Savage	5'11"	185	Sr.	Tulsa
WR	Charles Smith	5'9"	175	So.	Fresno State
TE	Brian Natkin	6'4"	238	Jr.	UTEP
OL	Neal Gray	6'3"	275	Sr.	Rice
OL	Carey Clayton	6'4"	272	Jr.	UTEP
OL	Rob Gatrell	6'5"	300	Sr.	Fresno State
OL	Rod Beavan	6'2"	285	Jr.	Rice
OL	Michael Keathley	6'4"	295	Jr.	TCU
QB	Billy Volek	6'2"	210	Sr.	Fresno State
RB	Paul Smith	5'11"	238	Sr.	UTEP
RB	LaDainian Tomlinson	5'11"	210	Jr.	TCU

DEFENSE

DL	Leif Larsen	6'5"	272	Sr.	UTEP
DL	Aaron Schobel	6'4"	246	Jr.	TCU
DL	Brian Young	6'4"	274	Sr.	UTEP
LB	Anthony Smith	6'2"	209	Jr.	Hawaii
LB	Tim Skipper	5'7"	200	Jr.	Fresno State
LB	Jeff Wucinich	6'2"	246	Sr.	San Jose State
LB	Jason Simonton	5'11"	225	Sr.	SMU
DB	Todd Franz	6'1"	190	Sr.	Tulsa
DB	Tracy Hart	5'11"	195	Sr.	SMU
DB	Travis Ortega	6'3"	205	Jr.	Rice
DB	Payton Williams	5'8"	175	Sr.	Fresno State
P	Colin Vadheim	6'1"	180	Jr.	SMU

SPECIALISTS

KR	Deonce Whitaker	5'6"	180	Jr.	San Jose State
PR	Payton Williams	5'8"	175	Sr.	Fresno State
K	Ricky Bishop	5'9"	169	Jr.	UTEP
P	Colin Vadheim	6'1"	180	Jr.	SMU

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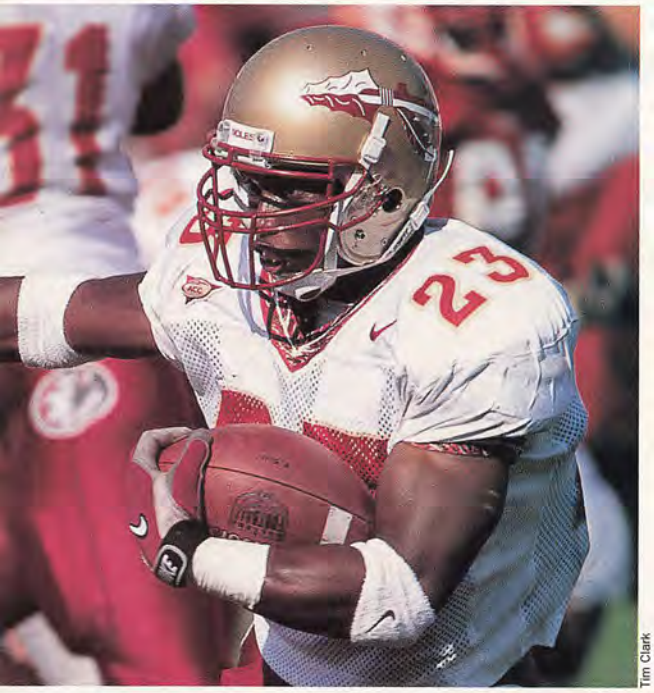
Florida State Seminoles

1

Bobby Bowden had to dig back through his mental archive to 1980, his fifth season at Florida State, to come up with a team that returned as many key elements as his 1999 Seminoles do.

With 58 returning lettermen, including 16 starters, the Seminoles won't have any trouble extending their record streaks of 10-win seasons and top-four poll finishes to 13. Nor should they have trouble registering an eighth consecutive ACC crown. Those feats have become mundane for the winningest Division I program this decade (97–13–1). Spurred by their 23–16 Fiesta Bowl loss to Tennessee in the national championship game, the Noles have the incentive and the requisite talent for another title run.



Tim Clark

Travis Minor

4,402 The total offensive yardage of returning FSU players this season. With their top three quarterbacks, top five rushers and entire receiving corps back, the Noles lost only 114 yards.

FSU returns its entire receiving corps, its top five rushers and nine of its top 10 scorers. More importantly, junior Chris Weinke is back for his second season at quarterback.

Weinke was emerging as one of the nation's top passers when he suffered a freak neck injury against Virginia and was limited to non-contact passing drills in the spring. He opens the season with a school-record string of 218 consecutive pass attempts without an interception. In Weinke's absence, Marcus Outzen led the Noles to their biggest win of the season, 23–12 over Florida.

Tailback Travis Minor led the team in rushing for a second straight year. Deceptively strong and blessed with sprinter's speed, Minor could match his career numbers (1,480 yards, 16 touchdowns) this year if he can avoid the ankle injuries that have slowed him. Freshman Nick Maddox could make an early contribution.

William McCray parlayed a strong spring performance into a starting fullback role and could spell Minor in one-back sets. The X-factor at fullback is Dan Kendra, whose legendary athletic skills have been shelved by knee troubles.

Any list of preseason Heisman Trophy contenders would be incomplete without Peter Warrick, one of the game's most electrifying playmakers, who averages 19 yards per catch and has scored 24 touchdowns. Warrick, however, is only part of the equation. Ron Dugans and Laveranues Coles, known for their sure hands and speed, respectively, have already combined for 112 career receptions and more than 1,700 yards.

Guard Jason Whitaker and tackle Ross Brannon both were All-ACC, and tackle Tarlos Thomas is another returning starter. Among the rising stars are junior guard Donald Heaven, who started as a freshman but lost his job last season, and junior offensive tackle Char-ron Dorsey. Senior Eric Thomas and junior Jarad Moon should continue their two-year battle for the starting center job.

Defensive tackles Corey Simon, an All-American, and Jerry Johnson combined for 127 tackles — 26 for losses — and had the same number of pass breakups (eight) as sacks. Roland Seymour, Jamal Reynolds and David Warren comprise a dominating three-man rotation at end.

Brian Allen, the team's strongest and swiftest linebacker, is a blossoming star, whether he's in the middle or pursuing from an outside spot. Likewise, rangy Tommy Polley is finally ready to cut loose as a playmaker from the weak side. Sophomore Bradley Jennings may be the most ferocious hitter of the bunch, while Theon Rackley lends speed and savvy at the strong-side position. Ballyhooed freshmen Kendyll Pope and Cornelius Collier could contribute early on.

Cornerback Mario Edwards notched 11 pass breakups and six interceptions, while cornerback Tay Cody returns as a third-year starter. Chris Hope and Sean Key were significant contributors at free safety and in FSU's nickel package; starting rover Derrick Gibson returns with his penchant for mayhem as a run-stuffer.

Sebastian Janikowski set the FSU and ACC record for field goals last season (27) en route to winning the Groza Award. Not only does his field goal range extend beyond 60 yards, but 47 of his 79 kickoffs went unreturned last season. Punter Keith Cottrell also returns as a third-year starter.

Warrick and Reggie Durden averaged 12.6 yards as a one-two punt return punch, and Coles, Durden and Talman Gardner are home run threats on kickoff returns.

Depth Chart

OFFENSE (9)

SE	**80 Ron Dugans (Sr., 3)**	7 Laveranues Coles (Sr., 3)
LT	**76 Ross Brannon (Jr., 2)**	75 Char-ron Dorsey (Jr., 2)
LG	**68 Jason Whitaker (Sr., 3)**	64 Justin Amman (Jr.,)
C	54 Jarad Moon (Jr., 2)	**57 Eric Thomas (Sr., 3)**
RG	**71 Jerry Carmichael (Jr., 2)**	78 Donald Heaven (Jr., 2)
RT	**60 Tarlos Thomas (Jr., 2)**	79 Todd Williams (So., 0)
TE	81 Nick Franklin (Sr., 1)	82 Patrick Hughes (So., 0)
FL	**9 Peter Warrick (Sr., 3)**	86 Germaine Stringer (Sr.,3)
QB	**16 Chris Weinke (Jr., 1)**	14 Marcus Outzen (Jr., 1)
FB	36 William McCray (Jr., 2)	10 Dan Kendra (Sr., 2)
RB	**23 Travis Minor (Jr., 2)**	24 Jeff Chaney (Jr., 2)

DEFENSE (7)

LE	**56 Roland Seymour (Jr., 2)**	93 Chris Walker (Sr.,3)
NG	**92 Jerry Johnson (Sr., 3)**	94 Octavis Jackson (Fr., 0)
DT	**53 Corey Simon (Sr.,2)**	48 Bryne Malone (Jr., 2)
RE	58 Jamal Reynolds (Jr., 2)	99 David Warren (Jr., 2)
LB	**29 Tommy Polley (Jr., 2)**	46 Michael Hamilton (Fr., 0)
LB	55 Brian Allen (Jr., 2)	44 Bradley Jennings (So., 0)
LB	5 Theon Rackley (Sr., 3)	55 Brian Allen (Jr., 2)
LC	**15 Mario Edwards (Sr., 1)**	30 Stanford Samuels (Fr., 0)
RC	**27 Tay Cody (Jr., 2)**	8 Clevan Thomas (Jr., 1)
RV	**6 Derrick Gibson (Jr., 2)**	32 Jean Jeune (Jr., 2)
FS	4 Chris Hope (So., 0)	18 Sean Key (Sr., 3)

SPECIAL TEAMS

K	38 Sebastian Janikowski (Jr., 2)
P	47 Keith Cottrell (Jr., 2)
KR	7 Laveranues Coles (Sr., 3)
PR	9 Peter Warrick (Sr., 3)

(#) Indicates number of returning starters
***BOLD** indicates returning starters*
NUMBER after class indicates letters won

Head Coach: Bobby Bowden | **1998 Record (ACC): 11–2 (7–1)**
1999 Prediction: 1st ACC | **Doak Campbell Stadium (80,000)**

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Penn State Nittany Lions

2

One by one the Nittany Lion football players trotted out at halftime of a Penn State-Indiana basketball game at the Jordan Center to receive accolades for outstanding performances last fall. The crowd responded by roaring for athletes from nearly every position. Then came quarterback Kevin Thompson. Cascades of boos followed.

Al Koolstra

Brandon Short

"That was out of ignorance," linebacker LaVar Arrington says. "They just don't understand."

Nevertheless, the perception is that Penn State is loaded everywhere but quarterback. But Thompson was hardly the only problem as Joe Paterno and staff called for bombs on seemingly every other snap, and Thompson's receivers dropped too many decent passes.

12 Joe Paterno needs a dozen wins to tie Pop Warner for second (319) on the all-time Division I-A list. Leader Bear Bryant's record (323) won't tumble until 2000.

Thompson thrives on short stuff, which he proved in picking apart Michigan State in the regular-season finale and Kentucky in the Outback Bowl. Look for more of the same in 1999. That's if he's the starter.

In the spring, Paterno declared the job open, saying junior Rashard Casey would get "every chance to win the job, if he can beat out Kevin." Of course, Paterno made the same proclamation a year ago, and Casey barely got his uniform dirty.

Penn State has an embarrassment of riches in the backfield, starting with super sophomore Eric McCoo. "Choo-Choo," as he is known in Happy Valley, averaged 6.5 yards per carry as a rookie. If he can keep his academic house in order (a concern in the spring), he'll likely be the first salvo fired from Penn State's armory of backfield talent. There's Omar Easy, a 245-pound sophomore who will be devastating if he finds a cure for fumbleitis. There's veteran Cordell Mitchell, whose career is in jeopardy due to a pinched nerve in his shoulder. That's not to mention Kenny Watson, Larry Johnson and heralded incoming freshman Horace Dodd.

There's not much flash at fullback, but junior Mike Cerimele is a capable blocker and sure-handed receiver. Backup Aaron Harris looks to regain his explosive form after being slow to recover from knee surgery.

For the moment, seniors Chafie Fields and Corey Jones are penciled in at the wideouts. The former is a burner who does not run precise routes. The latter was considered the best high school pass catcher in the nation half a decade ago but hasn't come close to realizing his potential at Penn State. Junior tight end Tony Stewart hauled in seven balls in the Outback Bowl.

Up front, the Nittany Lions keep getting better. They return four starters in Kareem McKenzie, who moves from guard to tackle, guard Greg Ransom, tackle John Blick and center Eric Cole. Two other linemen, Jordan Caruso and Gabe Tincher, have starting experience, and Josh Mitchell contributed heavily as a freshman in 1997 before redshirting.

On defense, the only significant loss is right end Brad Scioli, but the return of left end Courtney Brown is a huge plus. Brown has 19½ career sacks, 10½ off the school record. Justin Kurpeikis, a quick, tenacious junior, moves in at right end.

Last year's starting tackles, senior David Fleischhauer and sophomore Bob Jones, both return. But Jones is now assigned as a backup end, with senior Imani Bell stationed inside.

Arrington, Penn State's first sophomore All-American since 1915, starts at one outside linebacker post. When he blitzes, he and Brown become the most athletic pass-rushing tandem in the nation. Seniors Brandon Short and Mac Morrison complete what many folks believe is the best linebacking corps in the history of "Linebacker U."

It's more of the same in the secondary, a senior-laden unit led by cornerback David Macklin, whom Paterno calls the best cover man in school history. On the opposite side is Anthony King, who notched 11 tackles, two interceptions and a fumble recovery against Kentucky. Askari Adams takes over for the departed Shawn Lee at free safety, backed up by junior James Boyd, the team's most vicious hitter. Derek Fox returns at hero.

Punter Pat Pidgeon has a career average of 42 yards. Placekicker Travis Forney rebounded from an inconsistent regular season to hit four of five field goal tries in the Outback. Bruce Branch again will return punts; backup wide receiver Eddie Drummond is slated for kickoff return duty.

Depth Chart

OFFENSE (8)

SE	7 Corey Jones (Sr., 1)	13 Sam Crenshaw (Jr., 1)
LT	**67 Kareem McKenzie (Jr., 2)**	68 Jason Bisson (So., 0)
LG	50 Gabe Tincher (Sr., 3)	74 Jordan Caruso (Jr., 2)
C	**51 Eric Cole (Sr., 3)**	62 Francis Spano (Jr., 0)
RG	**55 Greg Ransom (Jr., 1)**	65 Rich Stankewicz (Sr., 1)
RT	**78 John Blick (Sr., 3)**	60 Tyler Valoczki (Fr., 0)
TE	89 Tony Stewart (Jr., 2)	84 Garrett Watkins (Jr., 1)
FL	**2 Chafie Fields (Sr., 3)**	1 Bruce Branch (So., 1)
QB	**16 Kevin Thompson (Sr., 1)**	12 Rashard Casey (Jr., 1)
FB	**36 Mike Cerimele (Jr., 1)**	25 Aaron Harris (Sr., 3)
TB	**8 Eric McCoo (So., 1)**	32 Cordell Mitchell (Sr., 3)

DEFENSE (9)

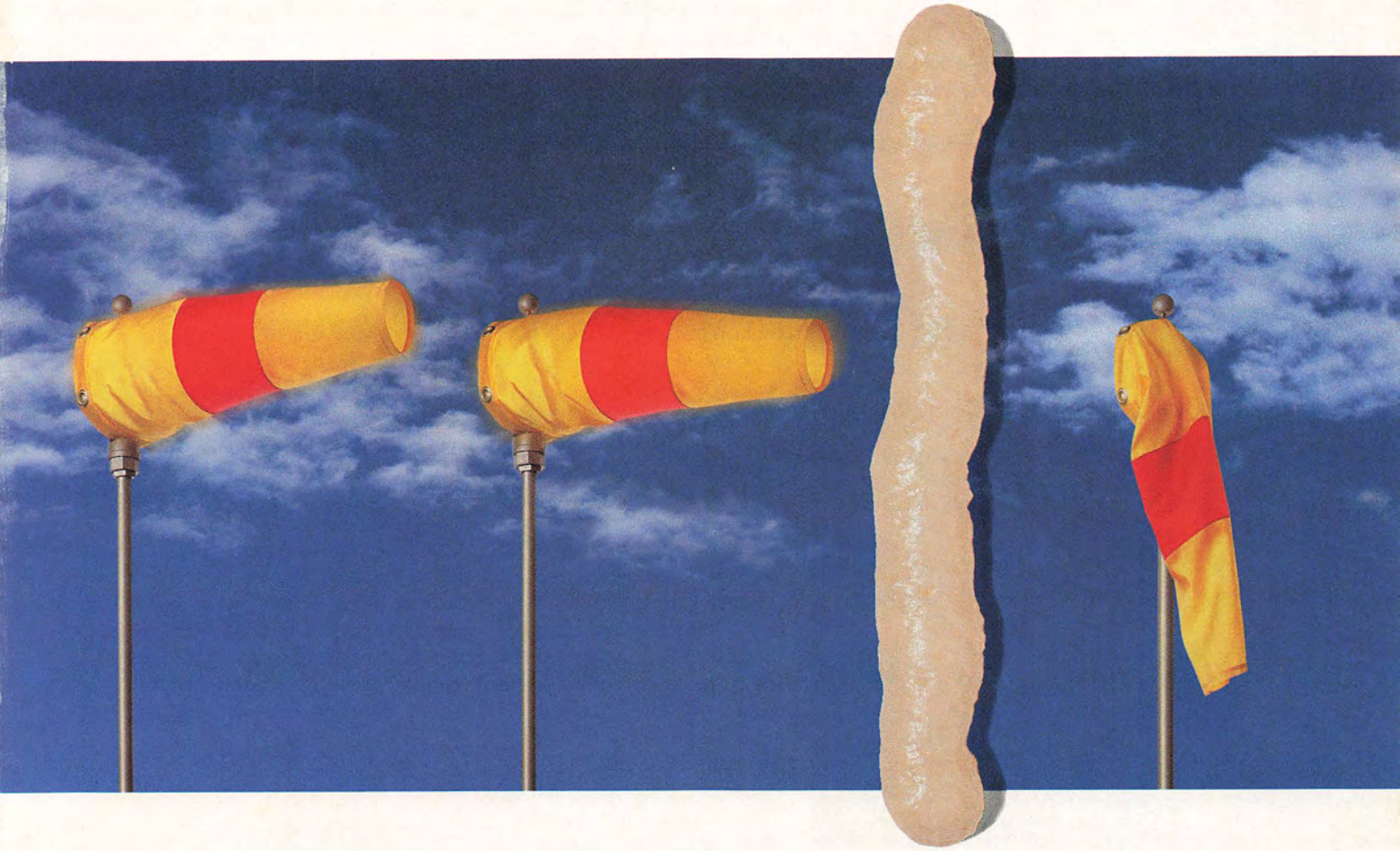
LE	**86 Courtney Brown (Sr., 3)**	94 Marc Kielmeyer (Jr., 1)
LT	**95 David Fleischhauer (Sr., 3)**	88 Jason Wallace (Jr., 1)
RT	57 Imani Bell (Sr., 2)	99 Tim Falls (Fr., 0)
RE	37 Justin Kurpeikis (Jr., 2)	**96 Bob Jones (So., 1)**
LB	**11 LaVar Arrington (Jr., 2)**	40 Aaron Gatten (Sr., 3)
LB	**43 Brandon Short (Sr., 3)**	52 Maurice Daniels (Sr., 3)
LB	**31 Mac Morrison (Sr., 3)**	58 Eric Sturdifen (Jr., 2)
LC	**27 David Macklin (Sr., 3)**	24 Mike Johnson (Fr., 0)
RC	**19 Anthony King (Sr., 3)**	10 Bhawoh Jue (Jr., 1)
H	**4 Derek Fox (Sr., 3)**	9 Titcus Pettigrew (Sr., 2)
FS	18 Askari Adams (Sr., 3)	6 James Boyd (Jr., 2)

SPECIAL TEAMS

K	14 Travis Forney (Sr., 2)
P	41 Pat Pidgeon (Sr., 2)
KR	20 Eddie Drummond (So., 0)
PR	1 Bruce Branch (So., 1)

(#) Indicates number of returning starters
***BOLD** indicates returning starters*
NUMBER after class indicates letters won

Head Coach: Joe Paterno — **1998 Record (Big Ten): 9–3 (5–3)**
1999 Prediction: 1st Big Ten — **Beaver Stadium (93,967)**



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Tennessee Volunteers

3

The view from Rocky Top has never been better. Tennessee returns 13 starters from the team that went 13–0 and climbed to the peak of the college football world in 1998, capping its national championship season with a victory over Florida State in the Fiesta Bowl.

Coach Phillip Fulmer and the Vols have another title run in their sights. Of course, Fulmer didn't become the winningest active coach in college football (67–11, .859) by assuming anything.

Tim Clark

Tee Martin

"The toughest thing is winning the East Division of the Southeastern Conference — you do that, and then you have a chance," Fulmer says. "I think the kids understand we'll be a marked target."

32 Tennessee has won 32 consecutive games when it has a running back rush for more than 100 yards. Jamal Lewis, who has 13 career starts, has 10 of those 100-yard games.

First-year offensive coordinator Randy Sanders, who replaced David Cutcliffe prior to the Fiesta Bowl, turned quarterback Tee Martin loose on the Seminoles, and Martin accounted for 297 of the 392 yards the Volunteers rolled up in the game.

"Tee has the ability to do a lot of different things," says Sanders. "It makes it that much easier to be a play-caller."

Martin's 4.4 speed becomes evident when plays break down; he rushed for seven touchdowns in '98. He also threw for more than 2,000 yards and ranked 20th nationally in efficiency ratings.

The Vols led the SEC in rushing last season and could do it again if junior tailback Jamal Lewis returns to form as expected. Lewis, a chiseled 6'0", 220-pounder who awakens memories of Bo Jackson with his blend of power and breakaway speed, suffered a torn ligament in his right knee four games into last season. Juniors Travis Henry and Travis Stephens filled in admirably. Henry had five 100-yard games and a team-high 970 yards rushing, while Stephens jitterbugged for 477.

Junior Cedrick Wilson is the only veteran wideout. He could be the best UT receiver of the 1990s, according to Vanderbilt coach Woody Widenhofer. Junior David Martin is a big target at 6'4", 210, while sophomore Eric Parker and redshirt freshman Leonard Scott are deep threats. Sophomore John Finlayson was the only UT tight end to catch a pass last season, but at 280 pounds, he's used primarily as a blocker.

Tennessee has one of the biggest and most athletic offensive lines in the nation. Senior left tackle Chad Clifton and junior right guard Cosey Coleman are surprisingly mobile and are All-America candidates. Senior Spencer Riley has started at guard and center the last two seasons. Senior Josh Tucker was a spot starter in 1998 and can play tackle, center or guard. Junior Toby Champion is fighting for a spot at guard, and redshirt freshman Will Ofenheusle is pushing for time at tackle.

Senior defensive tackle Darwin Walker, the strongest player in school history with a 530-pound bench press, led the Vols with six sacks last season and is equally adept playing the run. Senior Billy Ratliff is quick off the ball and has a knack for making big plays. Sophomore John Henderson and redshirt freshman Rashad Moore possess brute power but must improve their techniques. Senior run-stopper Shaun Ellis returns to left end while sophomore Will Overstreet is the leading candidate to fill the opening at right end.

Sophomore Bernard Jackson or redshirt freshman Keyon Whiteside could win the vacant middle linebacker job. Senior All-America candidate Raynoch Thompson and junior Eric Westmoreland give the Vols the best pair of outside 'backers in the SEC. Thompson has great agility and led UT with 89 tackles from his weak-side position.

Junior free safety Deon Grant is blessed with impressive size (6'3", 205) and speed and led the team with five interceptions. Senior Fred White is a punishing hitter at strong safety. All-SEC senior Dwayne Goodrich, the Defensive MVP of the Fiesta Bowl, returns at right cornerback. Junior Andre Lott gets first shot at the vacant left cornerback spot.

Tennessee has the difficult chore of replacing the SEC's all-time leading scorer, kicker Jeff Hall. Senior Robert Loudermilk has no experience. Incoming freshman Steven Lee is expected to compete. Junior David Leaverton returns to handle the punting after averaging 38.9 yards last fall and battling inconsistency.

Depth Chart

OFFENSE (6)

WR	87 David Martin (Jr., 2)	85 Leonard Scott (Fr., 0)
LT	**67 Chad Clifton (Sr., 3)**	71 Reggie Coleman (Fr., 0)
LG	53 Toby Champion (Jr., 1)	74 Bernard Gooden (Jr., 0)
C	**68 Spencer Riley (Sr., 3)**	79 Reggie Ridley (Fr., 0)
RG	**52 Cosey Coleman (Jr., 2)**	78 Tim Hodges (Fr., 0)
RT	77 Josh Tucker (Sr., 3)	73 Will Ofenheusle (Fr., 0)
TE	96 John Finlayson (So., 1)	84 Neil Johnson (Jr., 1)
QB	**17 Tee Martin (Sr., 3)**	8 Joey Mathews (Fr., 0)
FB	21 Phillip Crosby (Sr., 2)	45 Will Bartholomew (So., 1)
TB	31 Jamal Lewis (Jr., 2)	**20 Travis Henry (Jr., 2)**
WR	**14 Cedrick Wilson (Jr., 2)**	80 Eric Parker (So., 1)

DEFENSE (7)

LE	**93 Shaun Ellis (Sr., 2)**	99 DeAngelo Lloyd (Jr., 2)
LT	40 Billy Ratliff (Sr., 3)	4 John Henderson (So., 0)
RT	**58 Darwin Walker (Sr., 2)**	95 Rashad Moore (Fr., 0)
RE	90 Will Overstreet (So., 1)	38 Roger Alexander (Sr., 1)
LB	**42 Eric Westmoreland (Jr., 2)**	28 Dominique Stevenson (Jr., 1)
LB	50 Keyon Whiteside (Fr., 0)	56 Bernard Jackson (So., 0)
LB	**46 Raynoch Thompson (Sr., 2)**	59 Judd Granzow (Jr., 1)
LC	30 Andre Lott (Jr., 1)	36 Maurice Fitzgerald (So., 1)
RC	**23 Dwayne Goodrich (Sr., 3)**	18 Gerald Griffin (Sr., 3)
SS	**2 Fred White (Sr., 3)**	33 Derrick Edmonds (Sr., 3)
FS	**7 Deon Grant (Jr., 2)**	13 Tad Golden (So., 1)

SPECIAL TEAMS

K	1 Robert Loudermilk (Sr., 0)
P	43 David Leaverton (Jr., 1)
KR	14 Cedrick Wilson (Jr., 2)
PR	80 Eric Parker (So., 1)

(#) Indicates number of returning starters
***BOLD** indicates returning starters*
NUMBER after class indicates letters won

Head Coach: Phillip Fulmer — **1998 Record (SEC): 13–0 (8–0)**
1999 Prediction: 1st SEC East — **Neyland Stadium (102,544)**

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Arizona Wildcats

4

Two weeks after Arizona beat Nebraska in the Holiday Bowl, athletic director Jim Livengood pursued a deal that will send the Wildcats to Penn State to play in the Pigskin Classic.

It's not about money for Arizona. It's about showcasing what UA coach Dick Tomey believes is a team with a reasonable chance to improve on a 12–1 season. The Wildcats are equipped with 16 returning starters, including the quarterback rotation of Keith Smith and Ortege Jenkins, which has accounted for 17 wins in Arizona's last 18 games. But they will be without All-America cornerback Chris McAlister and the Pac-10's top offensive lineman, Yusuf Scott.

Peter Brouillet

Trung Canidate

5,339 Arizona has built its reputation as a defensive force, but in gaining 5,339 yards last year it shattered a school record for total offense. No other Wildcat team has ever surpassed 4,666 yards in a season.

Arizona hasn't produced an all-conference quarterback in 21 Pac-10 seasons, and probably won't this year, as Smith and Jenkins continue to share the position.

Smith started 10 of 13 games last year, including the last six, all victories. Jenkins has thrown 24 touchdown passes in what amounts to 10 career starts. The starter, designated shortly before kickoff, plays the first quarter and is replaced in the second quarter.

At running back, senior Trung Canidate recovered from a stress fracture in his left foot at midseason, and became a long-distance runner, scoring on runs of 80, 75, 71, 66, 54, 48 and 45 yards after September. His 7.3-yards per-carry average was the highest in the Pac-10 in 25 years.

The Wildcats haven't identified a fullback to replace Kelvin Eafon; Jim Wendler is a candidate pending an appeal for a hardship year. Arizona often uses a tight end in an H-back formation in short-yardage situations. In that role the Wildcats plan to use converted starting defensive end Eli Wnek and former defensive tackle Dolphin Tillman.

Senior Dennis Northcutt, with 63 receptions for 922 yards last year, may become the most prolific receiver in school history. He's also one of the Pac-10's most capable return men, adding more than 650 yards on kickoff and punt returns.

Senior Brad Brennan caught a fourth-quarter touchdown pass in a Holiday Bowl victory over Nebraska. He has a history of making game-turning plays, although he played the season on an injured ankle that required off-season surgery.

Arizona has other candidates at wide receiver, among them sophomore Malosi Leonard, redshirt freshman Michael Hairgrove and two junior college recruits, Marvin Brown and Brandon Marshall.

Junior Brandon Manumaleuna, a part-time starter in '98, takes over at tight end.

The Wildcats have five experienced offensive linemen, three of them starters.

Sophomore Makoa Freitas, a freshman All-American, fills one of the two vacancies. Junior center Bruce Wiggins, sophomore guard Steven Grace and senior tackle Manuia Savea are returning starters. The final spot is heavily contested. Junior college transfer Kevin Barry will get a chance, opposed by junior Marques McFadden and redshirt freshman Aaron Higginbotham.

On defense, the Wildcats are two-deep at every line position. Sophomore Keoni Fraser became a capable starter on the interior, and junior Joe Tafoya has become a standout. Junior pass rusher Mike Robertson had 6.5 sacks, and Anthony Thomas should start next to Fraser at tackle.

Arizona will rotate eight linemen in down-and-distance situations. Junior Idris Haroon could be the most talented of the group, and senior James Lewis has turned into a useful interior player.

Senior starters Marcus Bell and Scooter Sprotte are solid linebackers. Bell was a first-team all-conference selection. Senior outside linebacker DaShon Polk has become an impact player at the demanding whip linebacker spot.

Senior cornerback Kelvin Hunter, senior free safety Rafell Jones and senior strong safety Greg Payne are dependable players, but they are not of McAlister's caliber.

Senior Leland Gayles, who missed the final five games with a neck injury, completed spring drills with McAlister's job, and will be pushed by redshirt freshman David Hinton.

Senior Mark McDonald made three field-goals in the 23–20 victory over Nebraska. Chris Palic will punt. Northcutt will return kicks.

Depth Chart

OFFENSE (7)

WR	8	**Dennis Northcutt (Sr., 3)**	83	Michael Hairgrove (Fr., 0)
LT	77	Makoa Freitas (So., 1)	78	Darren Safranek (Fr., 0)
LG	66	**Steven Grace (So., 1)**	74	Chris Redding (Fr., 0)
C	70	**Bruce Wiggins (Jr., 2)**	66	Steven Grace (So., 1)
RG	71	Marques McFadden (Jr., 1)	60	Aaron Higginbotham (Fr., 0)
RT	67	**Manuia Savea (Sr., 1)**	75	Ega Usu (Sr., 1)
TE	90	Brandon Manumaleuna (Jr., 2)	89	James Hugo (Fr., 0)
WR	13	Brad Brennan (Sr., 3)	25	Malosi Leonard (So., 1)
QB	12	**Keith Smith (Sr., 3)**	16	**Ortege Jenkins (Jr., 2)**
FB	34	Jim Wendler (Sr., 2)	9	Dolphin Tillman (Sr., 3)
TB	30	**Trung Canidate (Sr., 3)**	29	Leon Callen (Jr., 2)

DEFENSE (9)

LE	99	**Joe Tafoya (Jr., 2)**	54	Alex Luna (So., 1)
LT	58	Anthony Thomas (Jr., 2)	94	James Lewis (Sr., 2)
RT	56	**Keoni Fraser (So., 1)**	97	J.J. Joppru (Sr., 1)
RE	55	**Mike Robertson (Jr., 1)**	87	Idris Haroon (Jr., 2)
LB	31	**DaShon Polk (Sr., 3)**	46	Stadford Glover (Sr., 2)
LB	40	**Marcus Bell (Sr., 3)**	52	Adrian Koch (Jr., 2)
LB	6	**Scooter Sprotte (Sr., 3)**	42	Antonio Pierce (Jr., 0)
LC	5	**Kelvin Hunter (Sr., 3)**	35	David Laudermilk (Fr., 0)
RC	22	Leland Gayles (Sr., 2)	23	David Hinton (Fr., 0)
SS	24	**Greg Payne Jr. (Sr., 1)**	37	James Hinrichs (Jr., 1)
FS	1	**Rafell Jones (Sr., 3)**	47	Jarvie Worcester (Fr., 0)

SPECIAL TEAMS

K	39	Mark McDonald (Sr., 3)
P	4	Chris Palic (So., 0)
KR	8	Dennis Northcutt (Sr., 3)
PR	8	Dennis Northcutt (Sr., 3)

(#) Indicates number of returning starters
***BOLD** indicates returning starters*
NUMBER after class indicates letters won

Head Coach: Dick Tomey — **1998 Record (Pac-10): 12–1 (7–1)**
1999 Prediction: 1st Pac-10 — **Arizona Stadium (56,500)**

Texas A&M Aggies

5

After going 2–2 against teams ranked in the Top 3 at the time they played last year, Texas A&M can claim it had a say in determining the national champion.

This season, the confident and experienced defending Big 12 champions are determined to have the final word.

Following a breakthrough 11–3 season that concluded in the 1999 Sugar Bowl, A&M players are intent on returning to the Big Easy for the BCS national title game. The coaching staff is more cautious but pleased that players are thinking big.

Layne Murdoch

Dante Hall

0–13 A&M's all-time record prior to 1998 against teams ranked higher than No. 4. The Aggies broke the big-game barrier last year, beating No. 1 Kansas State and No. 2 Nebraska.

"I think it's realistic to want to do better," says A&M coach R.C. Slocum, who welcomes back 18 starters, including both kicking specialists. "The reality is that it will be a real challenge to get back to where we were. But I think we've taken the program forward, and I think we're on the verge of taking it another step."

Some of that depends on quarterback Randy McCown. He isn't a particularly pretty passer. He doesn't dazzle opponents with his open-field running ability either. But McCown has won respect with his hard-nosed, gritty style.

Senior tailback Dante Hall and sophomore fullback Ja'Mar Toombs are a dangerous combination of slash and crash. Hall (5'8", 190) tallied 1,024 yards last season. Toombs, now at a "slimmed-down" 250 pounds, is a bullish, powerful runner/blocker.

The traditionally run-oriented Aggies have often longed for a few good men to catch the football. Now, it appears the Aggies have an army of outstanding receivers.

Seniors Chris Cole and Leroy Hodge have all-conference talent, while junior Chris Taylor and sophomore Bethel Johnson have game-breaking speed and big-play potential.

The most likely starting candidate at tight end is junior RoDerrick Broughton, who has just one career reception.

Right tackle Andy Vincent, right guard Semisi Heimuli and center Seth McKinney return to anchor the offensive line after solid seasons in 1998. But A&M must replace both starters on the left side. The leading candidates are junior Chris Valletta at left guard and sophomore Tango McCauley at left tackle.

For the first time in three years, Texas A&M won't have to replace its entire defensive line. That, says line coach Bill Johnson, makes a world of difference.

All three starters — juniors Ron Edwards, Rocky Bernard and Ronald Flemons — as well as every reserve from last year return in 1999. And the most encouraging news for the Aggies is that they come back after making major strides in 1998.

The most productive linebacker in the history of Texas A&M, Lombardi winner Dat Nguyen, is gone, and with him his great leadership skills. But don't expect A&M to miss a beat. Junior inside linebacker Cornelius Anthony (100 tackles, four sacks last year) appears to be ready to take his place as A&M's next star linebacker. Junior outside linebackers Roylin Bradley and Jason Glenn also are expected to be impact players.

In reality, Nguyen's leadership qualities may be more difficult to replace than his physical skills. Junior Chad Frantzen could get the first opportunity to fill in for Nguyen.

The cornerstones of the best A&M defenses in the last 15 years have been defensive backs with the ability to play man-to-man coverage — a la Lester Hayes — enabling the linebackers to assault the quarterback. The Aggies may once again possess that type of secondary talent.

Senior Jason Webster is a tremendous coverage cornerback and a solid tackler. Jay Brooks and Sedrick Curry are engaged in a battle for the other starting cornerback spot, but both will play and both have proven themselves under fire. Michael Jameson and Brandon Jennings form a solid combination at the safety spots, but could be pushed for playing time by Ronald Patton and former Colorado quarterback Jeremy Weisinger.

Senior punter Shane Lechler was All-Big 12. Russell Bynum had a solid season, hitting 16-of-20 field goal attempts. Webster, Chris Taylor and Bethel Johnson form a dangerous return trio for punts and kickoffs.

Depth Chart

OFFENSE (8)

SE	80	**Chris Cole (Sr., 2)**	9	Bethel Johnson (So., 0)
LT	74	Tango McCauley (So., 0)	79	Shea Holder (Sr., 2)
LG	71	Chris Valletta (Jr., 2)	72	Billy Yates (Fr., 0)
C	77	**Seth McKinney (So., 1)**	56	Toby McCarthy (Jr., 1)
RG	62	**Semisi Heimuli (Sr., 3)**	51	Taylor Whitley (Fr., 0)
RT	78	**Andy Vincent (Sr., 3)**	76	Michael Mahan (Fr., 0)
TE	82	RoDerrick Broughton (Jr., 2)	87	Michael de la Torre (Fr., 0)
QB	15	**Randy McCown (Sr., 3)**	8	Vance Smith (Fr., 0)
FB	5	**Ja'Mar Toombs (So., 1)**	20	D'Andre Hardeman (Sr., 3)
RB	34	**Dante Hall (Sr., 3)**	3	Eric Bernard (Sr., 2)
FL	88	**Leroy Hodge (Sr., 3)**	7	Chris Taylor (Jr., 2)

DEFENSE (8)

DE	95	**Rocky Bernard (Jr., 2)**	97	Lonnie Madison (So., 1)
NG	96	**Ron Edwards (Jr., 2)**	93	Evan Perroni (So., 1)
DE	99	**Ronald Flemons (Jr., 2)**	55	Terry Nichols (So., 1)
LB	23	Jason Glenn (Jr., 2)	2	Christian Rodriguez (So., 1)
LB	46	**Cornelius Anthony (Jr., 2)**	44	Sean Coryatt (Sr., 3)
LB	59	Chad Frantzen (Jr., 2)	52	Amon Simon (So., 1)
LB	40	**Roylin Bradley (Jr., 2)**	58	Chris Thierry (Sr., 3)
CB	39	**Jason Webster (Sr., 3)**	31	Reggie Waddell (Jr., 0)
CB	18	**Sedrick Curry (Sr., 3)**	26	Jay Brooks (So., 1)
SS	1	Michael Jameson (Jr., 2)	47	Jeremy Weisinger (Sr., 0)
FS	30	**Brandon Jennings (Sr., 3)**	36	Ronald Patton (Jr., 2)

SPECIAL TEAMS

K	37	Russell Bynum (Jr., 1)
P	6	Shane Lechler (Sr., 3)
KR	7	Chris Taylor (Jr., 2)
PR	7	Chris Taylor (Jr., 2)

(#) Indicates number of returning starters
***BOLD** indicates returning starters*
NUMBER after class indicates letters won

Head Coach: R.C. Slocum **1998 Record (Big 12): 11–3 (7–1)**
1999 Prediction: 1st Big 12 South **Kyle Field (58,000)**

Virginia Tech Hokies

6

According to Virginia Tech head coach Frank Beamer, the only way to follow a 9–3 "rebuilding" year is with caution. The Hokies were picked to finish somewhere in the second division, yet surprised their Big East brethren with their maturity en route to a win in the Music City Bowl over Alabama.

Virginia Tech SID

Corey Moore

"I think we're on a growth surge here," Beamer says. "We're trying to work our way to the top of the college football world, but we're certainly not there. I think the one thing that happened to us the last two years is that we let a team come in here and beat us that probably shouldn't have."

1,023 The number of all-purpose yards amassed by junior tailback Shyrone Stith for the Hokies in 1998 — 699 rushing, 282 on kickoff returns and 42 as a receiver.

With those defeats in mind, the Hokies' first two games of '99 — home against James Madison and UAB — could hold more significance than the visit to Virginia or the Miami game in Blacksburg.

The leading contenders for the quarterback job vacated by the graduating Al Clark are junior Dave Meyer and redshirt freshmen Michael Vick and Grant Noel. Because Clark missed so much time due to injuries during his tenure, Meyer was able to get some snaps (four games as a freshman). But the team, including members of the defense, are intrigued by the ability of Vick, who seemingly has all the tools (arm strength, foot speed and big-play bravado) to make the greatest impact.

Junior Shyrone Stith leads a stable of solid, if not spectacular, tailbacks. Stith has an uncanny knack for finding seams and piling up yardage without much notice. He ran for 699 yards and three touchdowns while backing up Lamont Pegues last fall. Another junior, André Kendrick, joins the mix in the backfield rotation, as do promising redshirt freshmen Lee Suggs and Keith Burnell. Kendrick is a straight-ahead runner who should get the majority of his snaps in goal-line situations. A pair of proven veterans, Cullen Hawkins and Jarrett Ferguson, return at fullback.

Split end Ricky Hall will have more to do with the new quarterback's success than anyone else. Hall is Virginia Tech's only returning big-play offensive starter. The 6'3", 201-pound senior led the team with 37 receptions and could be on the verge of all-conference recognition.

Senior Marcus Gildersleeve and sophomores André Davis and Emmett Johnson are among the complementary options, but the most exciting and potentially explosive candidate is freshman Andrae Harrison, a highly regarded local recruit.

Virginia Tech has seven offensive linemen who have started at least one game. All-Big East performers Derek Smith and Dwight Vick have departed, leaving voids for juniors Josh Redding (at Smith's old spot) and Matt Lehr to fill. At right guard, junior Anthony Lambo, a bona fide run-blocking machine, is listed ahead of senior Joe Marchant, who started seven games last fall. Senior Keith Short and junior Dave Kadela return to their starting jobs at center and tackle, respectively.

Seniors John Engelberger and Corey Moore form the best defensive end tandem in the Big East. Moore is the best pass rusher in the conference, and Engelberger is one of the top two against the run. Senior tackles Nat Williams and Carl Bradley aren't necessarily weak against the run or pass, either.

The Virginia Tech linebacking brigade also returns all of its starters — speedy seniors Jamel Smith and Michael Hawkes and junior Lorenzo Ferguson — along with a strong supporting cast. Smith led the team in tackles last fall with 99, including 12 behind the line.

The secondary is the defense's weak link, as junior cornerback Ike Charlton is the lone returning starter. Charlton, however, is a good starting point. He started every game in the boundary corner and has the kind of speed and instincts that will allow the Hokies to shut down one side of the field. Anthony Midget has seen action at cornerback and safety, and that versatility will be utilized again. The other projected starters are junior Nick Sorensen, a safety-turned-quarterback who is moving back to his natural position, and junior Cory Bird.

Kicker Shayne Graham and punter Jimmy Kibble return to make the Hokies' special teams a game-changing unit. Virginia Tech is replacing graduating punt returner Angelo Harrison with Larry Austin. Stith is still the Hokies' kickoff return man.

Depth Chart

OFFENSE (7)

SE	**82 Ricky Hall (Sr., 1)**	18 Emmett Johnson (So., 1)
LT	**79 Josh Redding (Jr., 2)**	58 Matt Wincek (So., 1)
LG	69 Matt Lehr (Jr., 1)	72 Daniel Nihipali (Sr., 0)
C	**52 Keith Short (Sr., 2)**	62 Tim Schnecker (Sr.,1)
RG	59 Anthony Lambo (Jr., 2)	**63 Joe Marchant (Sr., 1)**
RT	**76 Dave Kadela (Jr., 1)**	70 Jermaine Hinkson (Fr., 0)
TE	**85 Derek Carter (Jr., 2)**	87 Bob Slowikowski (So., 1)
FL	88 André Davis (So., 1)	86 Terrell Parham (Fr., 0)
QB	7 Michael Vick (Fr., 0)	13 Dave Meyer (Jr., 1)
FB	**27 Jarrett Ferguson (So., 1)**	42 Cullen Hawkins (Jr., 3)
TB	38 Shyrone Stith (Jr., 2)	4 André Kendrick (Jr., 2)

DEFENSE (8)

LE	**56 Corey Moore (Sr., 2)**	51 Ron Cook (So., 0)
LT	**92 Nat Williams (Sr., 3)**	94 Chad Beasley (So., 1)
RT	**77 Carl Bradley (Sr., 3)**	71 David Pugh (So., 1)
RE	**96 John Engelberger (Sr., 3)**	99 Chris Cyrus (Sr., 2)
LB	**6 Lorenzo Ferguson (Jr., 2)**	30 Tee Butler (Jr., 0)
LB	**43 Michael Hawkes (Sr., 3)**	41 Jake Houseright (So., 1)
LB	**46 Jamel Smith (Sr., 3)**	40 Ben Taylor (So., 1)
LC	9 Anthony Midget (Sr., 3)	2 Ronyell Whitaker (Fr., 0)
RC	**3 Ike Charlton (Jr., 2)**	24 Larry Austin (So., 1)
RV	16 Cory Bird (Jr., 2)	8 Phillip Summers (Jr., 2)
FS	14 Nick Sorensen (Jr., 2)	31 Reggie Samuel (So., 1)

SPECIAL TEAMS

K	17 Shayne Graham (Sr., 3)	
P	95 Jimmy Kibble (Sr., 3)	
KR	38 Shyrone Stith (Jr., 2)	
PR	24 Larry Austin (So., 1)	

(#) Indicates number of returning starters
***BOLD** indicates returning starters*
NUMBER after class indicates letters won

Head Coach: Frank Beamer — **1998 Record (Big East): 9–3 (5–2)**
1999 Prediction: 1st Big East — **Lane Stadium (50,000)**

Michigan Wolverines

7

Not this again. The schedule that doubles as a mountain. It was the mountain of a schedule in 1997 that did so much for the Michigan Wolverines as they marched to a share of the national championship.

Coach Lloyd Carr, entering his fifth season, believes his 1999 team faces an even bigger climb with six opponents who were ranked at the end of last season. After opening against Notre Dame, two weeks later there are difficult, back-to-back road games with Syracuse and Wisconsin. And that's just the first month. Penn State and Ohio State lurk in November.

Peter Brouillet

Anthony Thomas

151.3 The Wolverines' average rushing yards per game in '98, the fewest since 1963.

The Wolverines learned last year the dangers of resting on previous successes. The national-title euphoria lingered last September, and they promptly lost their first two games. Michigan managed to rebound, finished 10–3 and earned a share of the Big Ten title. Michigan players were ecstatic after a comeback victory over Arkansas in the Citrus Bowl. Carr is hopeful his players have learned how to temper their own expectations and not worry about those of their fans.

Senior quarterback Tom Brady proved his worth, leading the Wolverines from the depths of that 0–2 start to a share of the conference title. From that journey, he gained valuable experience and flexed his muscles as a proven leader and solid decision-maker with an equally strong arm. Brady's backup — and undoubtedly a factor this year — is sophomore Drew Henson, who in his other life plays baseball in the New York Yankees' minor league system and pocketed a $2 million signing bonus. Baseball aside, Henson wants to be the starting quarterback for Michigan this season. He is an immense talent, and coaches say he has made great strides.

At running back, depth could be an issue, with sophomore Justin Fargas out for the season while he recovers from a second surgery to repair broken bones in his right leg. The starting job belongs to junior Anthony Thomas, who led the team with 763 yards and 12 scores last season. Senior Aaron Shea returns at fullback.

Wide receiver Tai Streets is gone to the NFL, but this position could prove to be a strength.

Sophomores Marquise Walker and Dave Terrell will be integral parts of the offense. Also returning are Marcus Knight and DiAllo Johnson, a one-time quarterback and defensive back who became the Wolverines' clutch third-and-long, go-to receiver.

Right tackle Jon Jansen, the two-year captain, is gone, but there are potential replacements. One is Chris Ziemann, a former starter who can play either guard or tackle and has fully recovered from a broken leg. Steve Frazier started the final six games of last season at right guard, although he may be supplanted by junior Maurice Williams. The rest of the line — David Brandt at center, Steve Hutchinson at left guard and Jeff Backus at left tackle — is seasoned and returns intact.

Defensively, tackle Josh Williams and nose tackle Rob Renes, who spent most of last season double-teamed, are back to anchor a line that lost only end Juaquin Feazell. To beef up the line, Carr moved 6'2", 245-pound Demetrius Smith from fullback in the spring. Grady Brooks has been moved from rush end to outside linebacker, leaving a vacancy that likely will be filled by Jake Frysinger. James Hall, who led the team in sacks, is the other end.

Inside linebacker Sam Sword, who led the team with 112 tackles last season, is no longer a Wolverine, and he will be replaced by Dhani Jones. He'll be flanked by Anthony Jordan and returning starter Ian Gold, with Brooks providing support.

The secondary is the area that most concerns Carr. Sure, senior Tommy Hendricks, who tied for second on the team last season with 60 tackles, is back at free safety; junior DeWayne Patmon, who had a team-high four interceptions, is back at strong safety; and junior James Whitley is at cornerback again. But the secondary lost a key player in William Peterson, who was kicked off the team for off-field problems, and that leaves depth issues. Safety Cato June and cornerback Julius Curry are coming off redshirt years, and Carr expects them to play considerably.

Sophomore Hayden Epstein likely will kick and punt. Getting looks as returners are Whitley, Terrell and Knight.

Depth Chart

OFFENSE (5)

SE	4	Marquise Walker (So., 1)	9	DiAllo Johnson (Sr., 2)
LT	**79**	**Jeff Backus (Jr., 2)**	72	Ben Mast (So., 0)
LG	**76**	**Steve Hutchinson (Jr., 2)**	71	Jeff Potts (Sr., 1)
C	67	David Brandt (Jr., 2)	75	Adam Adkins (So., 1)
RG	54	Maurice Williams (Jr., 2)	**64**	**Steve Frazier (Sr., 2)**
RT	52	Chris Ziemann (Sr., 3)	58	Jonathan Goodwin (Jr., 0)
TE	84	Shawn Thompson (So., 1)	83	Bennie Joppru (Fr., 0)
QB	**10**	**Tom Brady (Sr., 2)**	7	Drew Henson (So., 1)
FB	**36**	**Aaron Shea (Sr., 3)**	39	Evan Coleman (So., 1)
TB	32	Anthony Thomas (Jr., 2)	8	Walter Cross (So., 1)
FL	1	Dave Terrell (So., 1)	85	Marcus Knight (Sr., 3)

DEFENSE (8)

DE	99	Jake Frysinger (Jr., 2)	96	Dave Petruziello (Fr., 0)
NT	**58**	**Rob Renes (Sr., 3)**	27	Demetrius Smith (So., 1)
DT	**91**	**Josh Williams (Sr., 3)**	94	Eric Wilson (Jr., 2)
DE	**56**	**James Hall (Sr., 3)**	44	Dave Armstrong (Fr., 0)
LB	28	Anthony Jordan (So., 1)	40	Eric Rosel (So., 1)
LB	**55**	**Dhani Jones (Sr., 3)**	17	Larry Foote (So., 1)
LB	**20**	**Ian Gold (Sr., 3)**	59	Grady Brooks (Jr., 2)
CB	**5**	**James Whitley (Jr., 2)**	31	Kenneth Jackson (Sr., 3)
CB	3	Todd Howard (So., 1)	26	Julius Curry (Fr., 0)
SS	**15**	**DeWayne Patmon (Jr., 2)**	2	Cato June (Fr., 0)
FS	**41**	**Tommy Hendricks (Sr., 3)**	42	Tate Schanski (Sr., 3)

SPECIAL TEAMS

K	25	Hayden Epstein (So., 1)
P	25	Hayden Epstein (So., 1)
KR	1	Dave Terrell (So., 1)
PR	5	James Whitley (Jr., 2)

(#) Indicates number of returning starters
***BOLD** indicates returning starters*
NUMBER after class indicates letters won

Head Coach: Lloyd Carr **1998 Record (Big 10): 10–3 (7–1)**
1999 Prediction: 2nd Big 10 **Michigan Stadium (107,501)**

Wisconsin Badgers

8

Two things — the return of senior tailback Ron Dayne, plus a defense more capable of inflicting pain than two-a-days in August — make questions over Wisconsin's starting quarterback seem less urgent.

The much-maligned but highly effective Mike Samuel is gone, and senior Scott Kavanagh and redshirt freshman Brooks Bollinger are vying for a chance on the hot seat. Samuel was so resilient that Kavanagh has gotten few chances to prove himself with the game on the line in the past two seasons, but when he did, he often failed to impress. He completed 15-of-28 passes for 188 yards and four touchdowns last year.

Peter Brouillet

Ron Dayne

+32 The Badgers improved by 32 games in the last six years compared to the previous six seasons. From 1987-92, Wisconsin won 17 games. But between 1993 and 1998, UW logged 49 victories.

While Kavanagh is more of a dropback passer, Bollinger comes from an option background and may fit better into a UW offense that developed a taste for the option under Samuel. Bollinger was last season's scout team Player of the Year.

Both have strong arms, and the competition that began in the spring will carry over into fall camp.

The 253-pound Dayne comes into 1999 with his eye on the Heisman, the all-time Big Ten rushing mark and a shot at Ricky Williams' all-time record. The Rose Bowl MVP ran for 246 yards in Pasadena, one short of Charles White's bowl record, and left UCLA's defense in shreds.

At fullback, the Badgers lose four-year starter Cecil Martin but replace him with sophomore Chad Kuhns, a strong blocker.

Wisconsin's inability to assemble a consistent passing game masks some emerging talent at receiver. Junior split end Chris Chambers was the only player in the Big Ten to average more than 20 yards a catch (20.1), and his ratio of one touchdown for every four catches put him third nationally. Senior flanker Ahmad Merritt caught nine passes for 126 yards and will get a strong push from sophomore Nick Davis. Coach Barry Alvarez has a pair of gigantic junior tight ends in 280-pounder Dague Retzlaff and 281-pound John Sigmund. They've been largely limited to blocking chores.

The Badgers lose 371-pound tackle Aaron Gibson, a behemoth who could collapse the right side of the line. Competing for that spot are sophomore Brian Lamont and redshirt freshman Ben Johnson, and the competition likely won't be settled until fall. But the rest of the line returns, led by senior left tackle Chris McIntosh, who has pro potential and will be in the chase for the Outland Trophy and Lombardi Award. Junior guards Dave Costa and Bill Ferrario return, along with two-year starting center Casey Rabach, a consensus second-team all-league pick.

Wisconsin is well-stocked along the defensive line, despite the departure of end Tom Burke, who led the nation with 22 quarterback sacks. Junior Ross Kolodziej steps in for Burke, moving over from tackle. The Badgers' other end, 231-pound junior John Favret, has the second-most tackles for loss in UW history (22) after two seasons. Kolodziej's move creates room for sophomore Wendell Bryant at right tackle. Bryant had two sacks in the Rose Bowl, including one to end UCLA's final drive. Left tackle will be anchored by former walk-on Eric Mahlik.

Seniors Chris Ghidorzi and Donnel Thompson — Wisconsin's two top tacklers — return at inside linebacker. Ghidorzi called signals on a defense that was one of four to rank in the nation's Top 10 in every category. Thompson's 109 tackles led the team.

Outside should be sophomore Dan Lisowski, who played in 11 games last season and made 23 tackles.

Two young cornerbacks, Mike Echols and Jamar Fletcher, silenced the skeptics as Wisconsin finished seventh nationally in pass efficiency defense. Fletcher's seven interceptions led the nation, and he set a Big Ten record with three picks returned for touchdowns. Junior Jason Doering registered 94 tackles, broke up six passes and intercepted three others at free safety. Senior Bobby Myers will start at strong safety.

Senior kicker Vitaly Pisetsky is set to replace Matt Davenport. All-Big Ten punter Kevin Stemke is back. The Badgers' return game received a boost from Nick Davis. Davis returned two punts for touchdowns and set the school record for punt return yardage (427).

Depth Chart

OFFENSE (7)

SE	**88 Chris Chambers (Jr., 2)**	21 Conroy Whyte (So., 0)
LT	**75 Chris McIntosh (Sr., 3)**	56 Jason Jowers (Fr., 0)
LG	**60 Bill Ferrario (Jr., 2)**	52 Terry Stephan (Fr., 0)
C	**70 Casey Rabach (Jr., 2)**	72 Al Johnson (Fr., 0)
RG	**54 Dave Costa (Jr., 2)**	53 Rob Roell (Sr., 2)
RT	71 Brian Lamont (So., 0)	64 Ben Johnson (Fr., 0)
TE	87 Dague Retzlaff (Jr., 2)	85 John Sigmund (Jr., 2)
FL	**1 Ahmad Merritt (Sr., 3)**	22 Nick Davis (So., 1)
QB	12 Scott Kavanagh (Sr., 3)	5 Brooks Bollinger (Fr., 0)
FB	41 Chad Kuhns (So., 1)	25 Marcus Carpenter (Sr., 3)
TB	**33 Ron Dayne (Sr., 3)**	4 Eddie Faulkner (Jr., 2)

DEFENSE (8)

LE	**96 John Favret (Jr., 2)**	9 Sam Mueller (Jr., 2)
LT	77 Wendell Bryant (So., 1)	58 Chris Janek (Sr., 3)
RT	**98 Eric Mahlik (Jr., 2)**	94 George Pratt (So., 1)
RE	**78 Ross Kolodziej (Jr., 2)**	99 Jake Sprague (So., 1)
LB	**16 Chris Ghidorzi (Sr., 3)**	49 Nick Greisen (So., 1)
LB	**44 Donnel Thompson (Sr., 3)**	42 Ben Herbert (So., 1)
LB	45 Dan Lisowski (So., 1)	32 Bryson Thompson (So., 1)
LC	**36 Mike Echols (So., 1)**	24 Donte King (Jr., 2)
RC	**2 Jamar Fletcher (So., 1)**	6 Joey Boese (So., 1)
SS	26 Bobby Myers (Sr., 3)	11 Devery Hughes (Fr., 0)
FS	**8 Jason Doering (Jr., 2)**	31 Carlease Clark (So., 1)

SPECIAL TEAMS

K	20 Vitaly Pisetsky (Sr., 2)
P	14 Kevin Stemke (Jr., 2)
KR	22 Nick Davis (So., 1)
PR	22 Nick Davis (So., 1)

(#) Indicates number of returning starters
***BOLD** indicates returning starters*
NUMBER after class indicates letters won

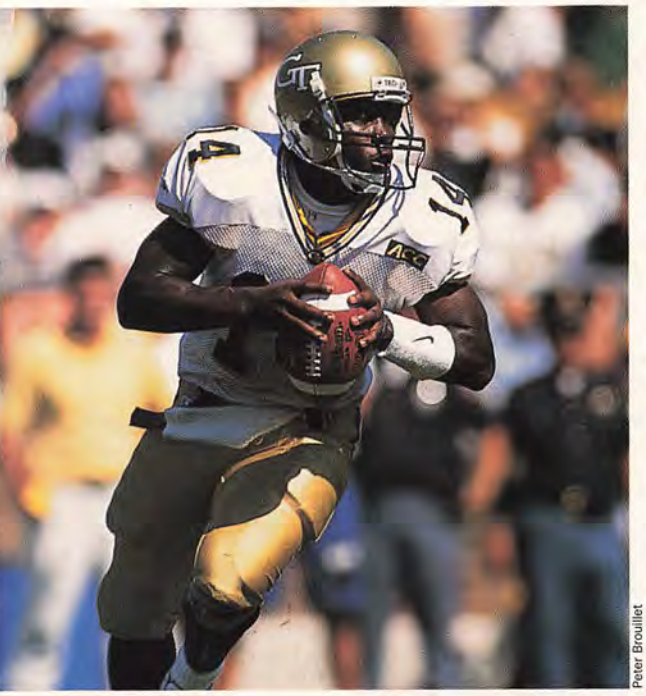
Head Coach: Barry Alvarez | **1998 Record (Big 10): 11-1 (7-1)**
1999 Prediction: 3rd Big 10 | **Camp Randall Stadium (77,745)**

Georgia Tech Yellow Jackets

9

George O'Leary allowed himself a brief smile during his press conference following Georgia Tech's 35–28 win over Notre Dame in the Gator Bowl. "Yes, I think winning 10 games in a season is significant," he said. Then the gruff Irishman stomped off to the locker room to plan for this season.

Despite O'Leary's reluctance to acknowledge the achievement, "significant" isn't the word. The last time Tech won 10 games in one year was 1990 — the same year they won a piece of the National Championship. Before that, the year was 1956.



Peter Brouillet

Joe Hamilton

19–8 Georgia Tech owns the nation's top bowl winning percentage at .703. The Yellow Jackets are sixth in the nation in bowl victories and 13th in bowl appearances.

In 1998 the Jackets came from behind to win four games. This year's model has an experienced offense led by a Heisman Trophy candidate, Joe Hamilton, and a new and improved defense led by O'Leary himself.

Hamilton will open the year as the starter for the fourth straight season. Although George Godsey is technically next in line, redshirt freshman Jermaine Crenshaw is O'Leary's pick to inherit Hamilton's throne.

Hamilton is No. 2 in every meaningful passing category in Tech history, behind Shawn Jones. But Hamilton is a better runner than Jones was, so it's no coincidence that he's listed as No. 1 in rushing yardage by a quarterback. The Tech communications department is poised to mount a Hamilton for Heisman campaign.

Crenshaw is a mirror-image of Hamilton, only bigger. Godsey relies on his intelligence rather than his athleticism to run the show.

In the backfield will be tailbacks Joe Burns, Sean Gregory and Phillip Rogers, and fullbacks Ed Wilder and Virgil Johnson. Add incoming freshman Sidney Ford and Tech's backfield is deep and talented.

Burns has strength and speed while Wilder is possibly the top blocking back in the country.

Dez White was the main receiver last season with 46 catches for 973 yards and nine TDs. The next receiver had 21 catches, to give you an idea of White's domination. If the Jackets have an offensive hole, it's that the receiving corps isn't deep.

But Burns and Wilder proved to have excellent hands out of the backfield, and Jon Muyres and Kelly Campbell have the speed to get open. One of Tech's recruits, Anthony Lawston, at 6'4", 215 with blazing speed, is expected to play meaningful minutes.

Conrad Andrzejewski and Russell Matvay will share the tight end duties. Andrzejewski is an effective blocker, while Matvay is the better receiver.

Experienced and deep are the code words along the offensive line, as no fewer than 11 experienced people return. Giant right tackle Jon Carman could be in for an All-America year while right guard Brent Key and left tackle Chris Brown are all-conference nominees. Noah King must replace center Craig Page. Three backs gained 400 or more yards running through holes created by these hard workers. And pass protection is not a problem.

A couple of holes begin to appear along the defensive front. The Jackets lost both defensive end starters and although the interior of the defensive line is back, there's little backup available.

Spring practice had transfer Andy Josephson working at one end and Felipe Claybrooks at the other. Claybrooks could be the surprise of the conference. Defensive tackles Guenter Kryszon and Merrix Watson will start at tackle, with Tony Robinson and Bryan Corhen providing very capable support.

O'Leary must get some freshman help at linebacker. Matt Miller went down with a knee injury during the season. Matt Uremovich was suspended last year for taking an over-the-counter but banned substance.

Chris Edwards returns to fill one spot, and Uremovich will be eligible to play as well. Miller will be back, but no one knows if he'll be 100 percent effective.

The secondary has been Tech's Achilles heel for the past three seasons. Cornerback Jamara Clark and free safety Travares Tillman are the lone returnees. Chris Young will probably start at strong safety, but the second corner is anyone's guess.

Tech must start from scratch on special teams. Walk-on Kai Cornwell will compete for the placekicking duties, and punting chores will fall to incoming freshman Philip Newman. White is an exciting kick returner, and Brett Basquin will return punts.

Depth Chart

OFFENSE (7)

SE	22	**Dez White (Jr., 2)**	8	Brett Basquin (Jr., 1)
LT	65	**Chris Brown (Jr., 2)**	66	Kevin Knapp (Jr., 1)
LG	75	Jason Burks (Sr., 2)	60	Brian Meager (So., 0)
C	71	Noah King (Sr., 1)	68	David Schmidgall (Jr., 0)
RG	70	**Brent Key (Jr., 2)**	63	Bill Madigan (Sr., 1)
RT	74	**Jon Carman (Sr., 2)**	76	Jason Kemble (So., 0)
TE	89	Conrad Andrzejewski (Sr., 1)	80	**Russell Matvay (So., 1)**
QB	14	**Joe Hamilton (Sr., 3)**	11	George Godsey (So., 0)
FB	47	**Ed Wilder (Jr., 2)**	39	Virgil Johnson (Sr., 3)
TB	35	Joe Burns (So., 1)	37	Phillip Rogers (Sr., 3)
FL	7	Jon Muyres (Jr., 2)	6	Kelly Campbell (So., 1)

DEFENSE (5)

DE	97	Felipe Claybrooks (Jr., 2)	99	Ira Claxton (Jr., 0)
DT	96	**Guenter Kryszon (So., 1)**	90	Bryan Corhen (Jr., 1)
DT	98	**Merrix Watson (So., 1)**	93	Tony Robinson (Jr., 2)
DE	95	Andy Josephson (Jr., 1)	38	Nick Rogers (So., 0)
LB	5	Chris Edwards (Sr., 3)	46	Jason Harrison (Fr., 0)
LB	48	**Matt Miller (Jr., 2)**	45	Ross Mitchell (So., 1)
LB	51	Matt Uremovich (So., 1)	18	Donte Booker (Sr., 2)
CB	25	Troy Tolbert (Jr., 2)	24	Derrick Dudley (Jr., 0)
CB	1	**Jamara Clark (Jr., 1)**	29	Marvious Hester (Fr., 0)
SS	33	Chris Young (So., 1)	28	Ron Mabra (Sr., 1)
FS	26	**Travares Tillman (Sr., 3)**	30	Reggie Wilcox (Sr., 2)

SPECIAL TEAMS

K	40	Kai Cornwell (Jr., 0)
P		Philip Newman (Fr., 0)
KR	22	Dez White (Jr., 2)
PR	8	Brett Basquin (Jr., 1)

(#) indicates number of returning starters
***BOLD** indicates returning starters*
Number after class indicates letters won

Head Coach: George O'Leary — 1998 Record (ACC): 10–2 (7–1)
1999 Prediction: 2nd ACC — Grant Field (46,000)

Nebraska Cornhuskers

10

Frank Solich was asked if last season had been set aside, forgotten. "By who?" Nebraska's second-year head coach replied. "It's not been forgotten by me."

Nor has it been forgotten by Cornhusker fans grown accustomed to perfection or near-perfection and national title runs rather than 9–4 records.

Steve Woltmann

DeAngelo Evans

The Cornhuskers, who hadn't lost as many as four games in a season since 1968, expect to get back on track, and assuming they can remain relatively healthy, they should.

227 The number of consecutive sellouts at Memorial Stadium, which will have skyboxes and a new press box this season. The sellouts, dating to Nov. 3, 1962, are a continuing NCAA record.

Solich is adamant about not choosing between junior Bobby Newcombe and sophomore Eric Crouch until the fall, because Newcombe missed spring practice while recovering from knee surgery.

The two are comparable. Newcombe has such big-play ability. Crouch ran the fastest 40-yard dash on the team in post-winter conditioning testing — 4.47 seconds — and was the team's second-leading rusher, averaging just under five yards per carry.

The Cornhuskers are three-deep at I-back. The problem is, juniors DeAngelo Evans and Dan Alexander have been hampered by injuries. Evans has the potential to rank with Nebraska's best but can't stay healthy. Junior Correll Buckhalter is reliable. Buckhalter was the leading rusher with 799 yards in '98, the lowest team-leading total since 1975.

Fullback is a concern for Solich. Junior Willie Miller is a running threat but was sidelined for the Holiday Bowl and spring practice with an abdominal injury. Freshman Judd Davies will get a look. The one who shows better blocking ability will earn the snaps.

Junior Matt Davison looks fragile but has proven to be a durable split end. He established himself as a reliable possession receiver, catching 32 passes, the most by a Cornhusker since Irving Fryar's 40 in 1983.

Senior wingback Shevin Wiggins was granted an additional season of eligibility, a ruling that wasn't made until the end of spring practice. Senior wingback Frankie London, a converted quarterback, is coming off a broken leg but has sufficient talent to be an offensive threat.

Senior T.J. DeBates and sophomore Tracey Wistrom are the top tight ends. Wistrom, a big-play receiver, is improving as a perimeter blocker, an area in which Nebraska was deficient.

The Cornhuskers averaged only 384.9 yards of total offense, the lowest since 1969. The line took the brunt of the blame for not being strong enough to knock the defense off the ball. This season should be different. Seniors Adam Julch, Jason Schwab and James Sherman all have played on national championship teams. Junior Russ Hochstein and sophomore Dominic Raiola may be the best of the bunch. The key is developing depth so the starters can get an occasional breather.

On the defensive line, rush end should continue to be a high-profile position, with redshirt freshmen Chris Kelsay, Justin Smith and Demoine Adams joining junior Kyle Vanden Bosch and senior Aaron Wills in the rotation.

Nebraska, which ranked second in the Big 12 and 16th in the nation against the run, also is two-deep inside, with senior Steve Warren and sophomore Jason Lohr at nose tackle and junior Loran Kaiser and sophomore Jeremy Slechta at tackle.

Only one of the top six linebackers is gone. Seniors Tony Ortiz and Brian Shaw again will alternate on the strong side and seniors Eric Johnson and Julius Jackson again will alternate on the weak side, with junior Carlos Polk moving up in the middle.

All of the starters return in the secondary, led by seniors Ralph Brown and Mike Brown.

Ralph, a cornerback, is exceptional in man-to-man coverage. Mike, a safety, is the team's surest tackler.

Juniors Erwin Swiney, Joe Walker and Clint Finley, a devastating tackler, and sophomore Keyuo Craver all were in the regular rotation in the secondary.

Kris Brown, the most productive placekicker in school history, and Bill Lafleur, who averaged a school-record 44.9 yards per punt, both must be replaced. That task falls to Josh Brown, a redshirt freshman considered talented enough to play a position as well as kick, and senior Dan Hadenfeldt.

Walker is the top kick returner.

Depth Chart

OFFENSE (7)

SE	3 Matt Davison (Jr., 2)	80 Larry Henderson (Jr., 0)
LT	**69 Adam Julch (Sr., 3)**	58 Dave Volk (So., 1)
LG	**63 James Sherman (Sr., 3)**	66 Jon Rutherford (So., 1)
C	54 Dominic Raiola (So., 1)	51 Matt Baldwin (Sr., 2)
RG	**55 Russ Hochstein (Jr., 2)**	66 Jon Rutherford (So., 1)
RT	**65 Jason Schwab (Sr., 2)**	75 Kyle Kollmorgen (So., 1)
TE	85 T.J. DeBates (Sr., 3)	87 Tracey Wistrom (So., 1)
QB	**12 Bobby Newcombe (Jr., 2)**	**7 Eric Crouch (So., 1)**
FB	15 Willie Miller (Jr., 2)	Judd Davies (Fr., 0)
IB	4 DeAngelo Evans (Jr., 2)	**36 Correll Buckhalter (Jr., 2)**
WB	1 Frankie London (Sr., 3)	5 Shevin Wiggins (Sr., 3)

DEFENSE (9)

DE	81 Aaron Wills (Sr., 3)	57 Chris Kelsay (Fr., 0)
NT	**96 Steve Warren (Sr., 3)**	70 Jason Lohr (So., 1)
DT	**91 Loran Kaiser (Jr., 2)**	56 Jeremy Slechta (So., 1)
DE	83 Kyle Vanden Bosch (Jr., 2)	97 Justin Smith (Fr., 0)
LB	**37 Tony Ortiz (Sr., 3)**	46 Brian Shaw (Sr., 3)
LB	13 Carlos Polk (Jr., 2)	39 Ben Buettenback (Sr., 3)
LB	**27 Eric Johnson (Sr., 3)**	50 Julius Jackson (Sr., 3)
CB	**16 Erwin Swiney (Jr., 2)**	3 Keyuo Craver (So., 1)
CB	**22 Ralph Brown (Sr., 3)**	2 Mike Demps (Fr., 0)
SS	**21 Mike Brown (Sr., 3)**	**25 Joe Walker (Jr., 2)**
FS	**19 Clint Finley (Jr., 2)**	5 DeJuan Groce (Fr., 0)

SPECIAL TEAMS

K	39 Josh Brown (Fr., 0)
P	17 Dan Hadenfeldt (Sr., 1)
KR	25 Joe Walker (Jr., 2)
PR	25 Joe Walker (Jr., 2)

(#) Indicates number of returning starters
***BOLD** indicates returning starters*
NUMBER after class indicates letters won

Head Coach: Frank Solich **1998 Record (Big 12): 9–4 (5–3)**
1999 Prediction: 1st Big 12 North **Memorial Stadium (72,700)**

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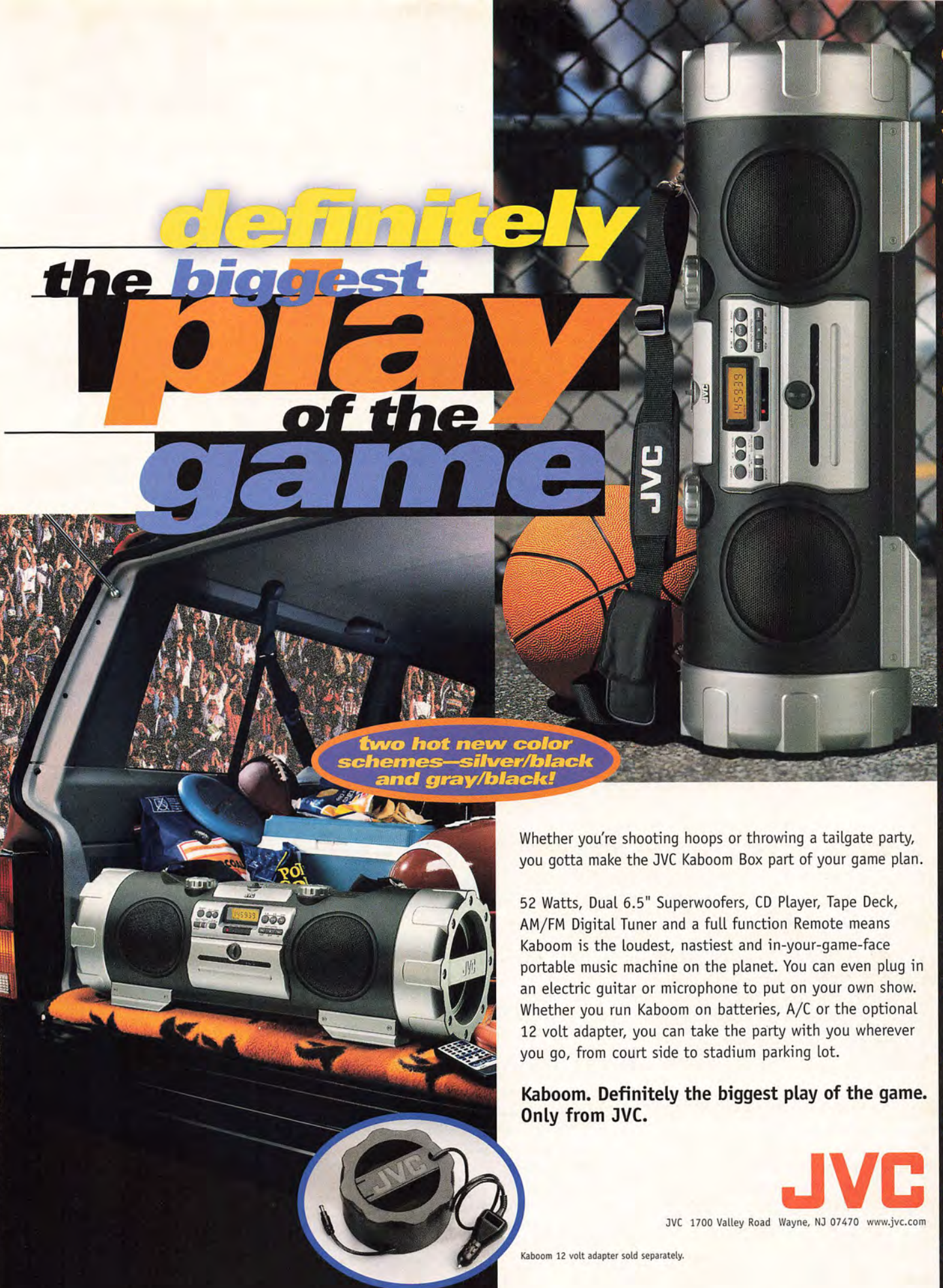

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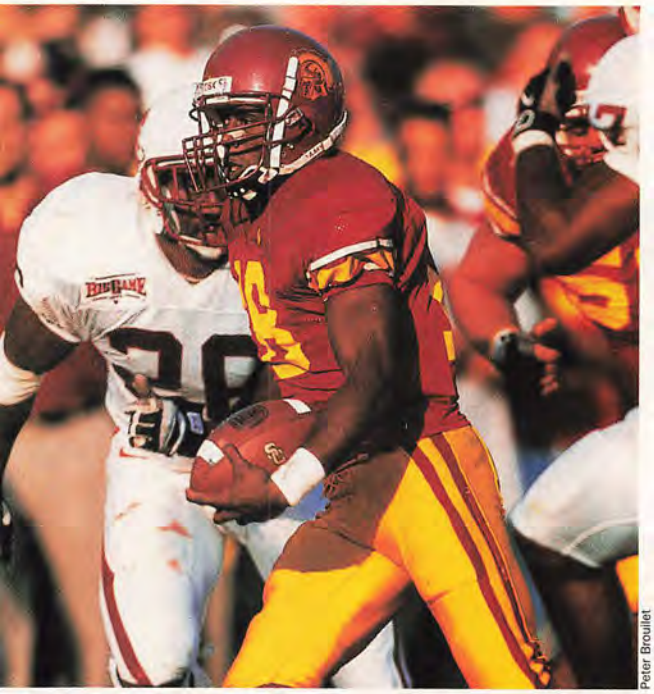
USC Trojans

11

It's Year 2 of the Paul Hackett era at USC, and although expectations will be higher than last year, it might be difficult for the Trojans to improve on Hackett's inaugural season. And Hackett is the first to acknowledge his fears.

"We have flip-flopped. The offense now has experience and the defense does not have experience," Hackett says. "It's the opposite of a year ago. I am extremely concerned about the defense."



Peter Brouillet

R. Jay Soward

USC's defense single-handedly saved the Trojans in several games last season, but it will miss linebacker Chris Claiborne and cornerback Daylon McCutcheon, among others.

'90's This has been one of the worst decades in USC football history. Three different coaches and just one Rose Bowl victory if you don't count the 1990 win that came after the '89 season.

Carson Palmer is USC's quarterback for as long as he wants to be. He passed for 1,755 yards last season and could easily go over 3,000 this year. The sophomore's emergence was so impressive that highly touted freshman Jason Thomas has decided to transfer. Junior Mike Van Raaphorst is comfortable with the backup role after starting eight games last season.

Senior tailback Chad Morton is still smarting that he fell 15 yards short of gaining 1,000 last season. If he stays healthy, he should surpass the magic number this year. Redshirt freshman Sultan McCullough has the speed to be an Olympic sprinter but also has difficulty holding onto the ball. Sophomore Frank Strong was shelved last year after fumbling too many times. Sophomore Malaefou MacKenzie, who tore knee ligaments in the season-opener against Purdue and redshirted, has finished rehabilitation and should see plenty of action. Senior Jabari Jackson and redshirt freshman Chad Pierson, who made an impact in the spring, are the fullbacks.

Senior wideout R. Jay Soward could be an All-American, but Hackett believes senior Windrell Hayes could lead USC in receptions since teams will be obsessed with shutting down Soward. The big anticipation here is the arrival of three of the top wide receiver recruits in the country — Marcell Allmond, Kareem Kelly and Steve Stevenson. Any one of them could be starting by midseason. Junior tight end Antoine Harris was disappointing last year but has been told to expect more passes this year.

The entire offensive line returns from last season. Senior guard Travis Claridge, the only USC lineman to be named All-Pac-10, returns as the leader. Junior tackle Brent McCaffrey could develop into a solid player, but he got burned by speedy defensive ends last year. Senior Matt McShane and junior Eric Denmon split time at center with junior Matt Welch at right tackle and senior Jason Grain at left guard. An interesting addition is junior Faaesea Mailo, who started a handful of games in 1996 before departing on a Mormon mission.

Junior defensive tackle Ennis Davis is a potentially dominating player. Senior tackle Aaron Williams and junior end Shamsud-Din Abdul-Shaheed both started last season, so there is experience up front. Sophomore Ryan Nielsen and freshman Bernard Riley, one of the top players in the nation, will be new impact players. A wild card is Kansas State transfer Matt Childers.

A year ago, linebacker was USC's strength, but Claiborne's gone and senior David Gibson moved to safety. The third starter — junior outside linebacker Zeke Moreno — has moved to middle linebacker. He'll be flanked by a host of unproven players, ranging from converted end Sultan Abdul-Malik, to sophomore Darryl Knight to Markus Steele, the top junior college linebacker in the nation.

Gibson is the strong safety, but there aren't many other recognizable names in the secondary. Junior Antuan Simmons (three interceptions) started last season in one corner and there's anticipation that incoming freshman Darrell Rideaux could start at the other. Another potential starter is juco transfer DeShaun Hill. Junior Ifeanyi Ohalete will start at free safety, with junior Darnell Lacy, a one-time starter, also getting playing time.

Sophomore David Newbury was brought in to be the placekicker. If he fails, little-used junior David Bell gets the chance. Sophomore punter Mike MacGillivray (37.7 yards per kick) had a decent freshman season and should get better. With Soward and Morton returning kickoffs and punts, it's not unrealistic to expect several touchdowns on returns.

Depth Chart

OFFENSE (9)

WR	18	**R. Jay Soward (Sr., 3)**		Marcell Allmond (Fr., 0)
LT	68	**Brent McCaffrey (Jr., 2)**	75	Faaesea Mailo (Jr., 1)
LG	79	**Jason Grain (Sr., 2)**	69	Zach Wilson (Fr., 0)
C	61	**Matt McShane (Sr., 2)**	50	Eric Denmon (Jr., 2)
RG	71	**Travis Claridge (Sr., 3)**	70	Donta Kendrick (Sr., 1)
RT	72	**Matt Welch (Jr., 1)**	73	Derek Graf (Fr., 0)
TE	81	**Antoine Harris (Jr., 2)**	84	Pat Swanson (Sr., 2)
QB	3	**Carson Palmer (So., 1)**	11	Mike Van Raaphorst (Jr., 2)
FB	27	Jabari Jackson (Sr., 1)	47	Chad Pierson (Fr., 0)
TB	7	**Chad Morton (Sr., 3)**	13	Sultan McCullough (Fr., 0)
WR	86	Windrell Hayes (Sr., 1)		Kareem Kelly (Fr., 0)

DEFENSE (6)

LE	58	Matt Childers (Jr., 0)	92	Kori Dickerson (So., 1)
LT	99	**Ennis Davis (Jr., 2)**	94	Darren Collins (Jr., 0)
RT	57	**Aaron Williams (Sr., 3)**	90	Ryan Nielsen (So., 1)
RE	52	S. Abdul-Shaheed (Jr., 2)	10	Jason Steen (Jr., 2)
LB	44	**Sultan Abdul-Malik (Jr., 2)**	55	Markus Steele (Jr., 0)
LB	34	**Zeke Moreno (Jr., 2)**	25	Lonnie Ford (So., 1)
LB	17	Darryl Knight (So., 1)	45	Mike Pollard (So., 1)
LC	6	**Antuan Simmons (Jr., 2)**		DeShaun Hill (Jr., 0)
RC	42	Kris Richard (So., 1)		Darrell Rideaux (Fr., 0)
SS	22	**David Gibson (Sr., 3)**		Troy Polamalu (Fr., 0)
FS	31	Ifeanyi Ohalete (Jr., 2)	2	Darnell Lacy (Jr., 2)

SPECIAL TEAMS

K		David Newbury (So., 0)	37	David Bell (Jr., 2)
P	38	Mike MacGillivray (So., 1)	80	Jacob Rogers (Fr., 0)
KR	18	R. Jay Soward (Sr., 3)		
PR	7	Chad Morton (Sr., 3)		

(#) Indicates number of returning starters
***BOLD** indicates returning starters*
NUMBER after class indicates letters won

Head Coach: Paul Hackett — **1998 Record (Pac-10): 8–5 (5–3)**
1999 Prediction: 2nd Pac-10 — **L.A. Coliseum (92,000)**

Alabama Crimson Tide

12

The Alabama football program that once had teams whipped before the coin toss crashed the last two seasons. They stumbled home at 4–7 in 1997. The Tide did show signs of life during a 7–5 season in 1998, but a 38–7 Music City Bowl loss to Virginia Tech was hard to swallow.

Third-year coach Mike DuBose has identified the reason for the struggles. Himself.

"I thought I was ready to be the head coach at the University of Alabama," he says, "but I didn't have a clue. I'm not real sure you can be ready to be the coach at Alabama until you do it."

Dwight King

Shaun Alexander

1,171 The number of yards Shaun Alexander needs to become the school's all-time leading rusher.

The fall of 1999 may be remembered as DuBose's breakout season. With a returning backfield that includes All-America candidate Shaun Alexander on the run behind an offensive line that returns intact, the offense should be one of the best in the Southeastern Conference. The Tide defense may not be up to standards that were set long ago, but it should be adequate with eight starters back.

And Tide fans may be ready to acknowledge that DuBose does, indeed, have a clue.

Especially if sophomore quarterback Andrew Zow is as effective as he was last year after taking the job from senior John David Phillips in the fifth game. Zow established a freshman school record for passing yardage at 1,969. Still, Zow starts the season a shaky number one. Highly regarded redshirt freshman Tyler Watts has a stronger arm and is an inch taller. He closed the gap on Zow during spring practice and only needs time in the SEC fires to take over the starting job.

Initially it will be a two-quarterback system, with Zow getting about 60 percent of the snaps as Watts is worked in slowly.

Alexander comes into his senior year as the SEC's leading returning runner and is within striking distance of the school career rushing record. Good size, good instincts and an extra gear for the open field got him 1,178 yards as a junior. Junior Dustin McClintock has chiseled himself from 261 to 244 for his return to fullback.

With Quincy Jackson graduated and Michael Vaughn gone a year early to the NFL, pass catchers are in demand. Fortunately for DuBose, talent is coming into the program. Sophomores Freddie Milons and Eric Locke are burners who caught some attention as freshmen and are the No. 1 flankers. Senior Shamari Buchanan is set at split end. He and senior Tim Bowens are coming back from injuries. Sophomore Terry Jones returns at tight end.

All the offensive line starters from last season return to make this the team's strong point. The returnees include senior Chris Samuels and junior Will Cuthbert at tackles, senior Jason McDonald and junior Griff Redmill at guards and junior Paul Hogan at center. Samuels, at 6'6", 294, is a candidate for All-America honors.

The defensive line will be the strongest part of the defense, with all four down linemen from last season returning. Junior Kenny Smith and sophomore Kindal Moorehead are punishing rushers at ends and seniors Cornelius Griffin and Jamie Carter clog things up against the run at tackles. Senior Reggie Grimes is a former starter who will play a prominent role at tackle. David Paine, 6'7", 260, was one of the nation's most sought-after prep linemen, and playing time is waiting for him.

The linebacker position, traditionally a Tide stronghold, is suddenly the team's biggest liability due to a lack of experience. Only junior middle linebacker Travis Carroll has started a game. Senior Canary Knight was forced to take charge in the middle and blossomed in the process. Sophomores Darius Gilbert and Victor Ellis got their feet wet as freshman outside backers. Saleem Rasheed was the No. 1 recruit and could soon be a starter.

Despite the loss of All-SEC performer Fernando Bryant at corner and big hitter Kelvin Sigler at safety, the secondary looks good. One reason is juco transfer Milo Lewis. He is a strong cover man who has secured one corner. Junior Tony Dixon started 10 games at free safety in 1998. Junior Marcus Spencer started six games and led the team with four interceptions. Reggie Myles was an SEC All-Freshman and started five games.

Junior Jason Kellen looks like the punter. Placekicker Ryan Pflugner, now a senior, will be challenged by strong-legged junior A.J. Diaz. The return game is dangerous with Arvin Richard and Milons back.

Depth Chart

OFFENSE (8)

SE	Shamari Buchanan (Sr., 3)	8 Tim Bowens (Sr., 3)
LT	**60 Chris Samuels (Sr., 3)**	Bart Raulston (Fr., 0)
LG	**75 Griff Redmill (Jr., 2)**	Todd Whitmore (Jr., 0)
C	**74 Paul Hogan (Jr., 2)**	71 Marico Portis (Fr., 0)
RG	**70 Jason McDonald (Sr., 3)**	68 Sam Matthews (So., 0)
RT	**72 Will Cuthbert (Jr., 2)**	56 Kenric Lott (Jr., 0)
TE	82 Terry Jones Jr. (So., 1)	86 Joe Yount (So., 0)
QB	**5 Andrew Zow (So., 1)**	14 Tyler Watts (Fr., 0)
FB	**30 Dustin McClintock (Jr., 2)**	6 Marvin Brown (So., 1)
TB	**37 Shaun Alexander (Sr., 3)**	26 Arvin Richard (Jr., 2)
FL	2 Eric Locke (So., 1)	15 Freddie Milons (So., 1)

DEFENSE (7)

DE	**88 Kenny Smith (Jr., 2)**	38 Shawn Draper (Jr., 2)
DT	**97 Cornelius Griffin (Sr., 1)**	51 Carlos Stennis (Jr., 1)
DT	**90 Jamie Carter (Sr., 3)**	98 Reggie Grimes (Sr., 3)
DE	**54 Kindal Moorehead (So., 1)**	67 Kelvis White (Jr., 1)
LB	58 Canary Knight (Sr., 1)	99 Darius Gilbert (So., 1)
LB	**44 Travis Carroll (Jr., 2)**	9 Victor Ellis (So., 1)
LB	1 Chris Horne (Jr., 2)	10 Miguel Merritt (Sr., 1)
CB	Milo Lewis (Jr., 0)	13 Kecalf Bailey (Jr., 2)
CB	23 Reggie Myles (So., 1)	36 Marcus Slay (Jr., 1)
SS	**41 Marcus Spencer (Jr., 2)**	19 Jason Jones (Jr., 1)
FS	**24 Tony Dixon (Jr., 2)**	John Fielding (Fr., 0)

SPECIAL TEAMS

K	42 Ryan Pflugner (Sr., 1)	
P	Jason Kellen (Jr., 0)	24 Patrick Morgan (Sr., 0)
KR	15 Freddie Milons (So., 1)	
PR	26 Arvin Richard (Jr., 2)	

(#) Indicates number of returning starters
***BOLD** indicates returning starters*
NUMBER after class indicates letters won

Head Coach: Mike DuBose | **1998 Record (SEC): 7-5 (4-4)**
1999 Prediction: 1st SEC West | **Bryant-Denny Stadium (83,266)**

Georgia Bulldogs

13

When Jim Donnan took over at Georgia on Christmas Day 1995, he said he needed two good recruiting classes to get the Bulldogs back atop the Southeastern Conference. Well, he just brought in his fourth, but indications are his predictions soon could start coming true.

But are the Bulldogs to the point where they can stand shoulder-to-shoulder with Florida and Tennessee, two of the last three national champions?

Dale Zanine

Quincy Carter

"I don't know; we've got to beat them before we can say that," says Donnan. "We've got to be one of the top five teams in the country just to win our division. But I knew that coming in here. We're getting better; we're getting closer."

.216 Quincy Carter's career batting average as a pro baseball player. Carter was drafted by the Chicago Cubs out of high school and played in the minor leagues for two years. A low batting average convinced him to turn to football.

How good is Quincy Carter? Just ask Daniel Cobb, Nate Hybl and Mike Usry. They were three of four players who competed with him for the starting quarterback job last summer. All three have transferred since Carter's freshman campaign, which saw him break Eric Zeier's freshman passing records for yards, attempts, completions and touchdowns and earn SEC Freshman of the Year honors.

The Bulldogs are hoping this is the year of the Pass, as in Patrick Pass. A former high school All-American, he was limited by foot injuries to 101 yards on 26 carries last season. Pass is healthy again and Georgia needs him to step up and realize his potential. Senior Rob Arnaud is a capable player with good speed who averaged 6.7 yards on 24 carries at fullback.

Michael Greer and Thad Parker, two skillful but diminutive receivers, are the incumbents at wideout, and coaches are hoping for a breakout year from Jermaine Phillips. But the Bulldogs think their real answers will arrive this summer. They signed three high school All-Americans in Reggie Brown, Durell Robinson and Michael Johnson. Look for all three to be in the mix by the start of SEC play.

Jevaris Johnson has been patiently awaiting his turn at tight end, and the coaches have been excited by what the agile 6'6", 248-pound prospect has done in practice.

Last year's starting tackles, Matt Stinchcomb and Chris Terry, are both in the NFL now, but the Bulldogs won't be starting from scratch. Jonas Jennings and Kelvin Williams both played extensively when injuries ravaged the line midway through last season. They'll take over this year and join a returning triumvirate of center Miles Luckie and guards Steven Herndon and Reggie Stargill.

The defensive line would appear to be one of Georgia's more glaring weaknesses. The Bulldogs lost three starters off a unit that managed only 29 sacks. But they believe they have a star in the making in Richard Seymour, who emerged last year to earn starts in four games.

Georgia moved Marcus Stroud back inside from end where his lack of speed won't be a disadvantage but his tremendous size (6'6", 297) will help. The Bulldogs also have big Brandon Miller (6'1", 305) to help stuff up the middle. Josh Mallard is a pass-rushing specialist who surprised coaches with his uncanny ability to get to the passer and led the team with six sacks.

The real success or failure on the line will be determined by the performances of converted inside linebackers Adrian Hollingshed and Dustin Luckie, who were moved to defensive end to give the Bulldogs more quickness and power coming off the edge.

There is talent and depth at the linebacking position. Boss Bailey and Will Witherspoon, who combined for 71 tackles in back-up roles last year, take over at the two inside spots. Meanwhile, the Bulldogs are pumping senior outside linebacker Orantes Grant, who led the team with 120 tackles last year, for All-America and Butkus honors.

Georgia will miss All-America CB Champ Bailey and All-SEC SS Kirby Smart. But the Bulldogs will survive. Sophomore Jamie Henderson likely will step into Bailey's cornerback slot opposite Jeff Harris, Larry Mann returns at free safety and Cory Robinson, Quentin Davis, Tim Wansley and Earl Chambers all can fill in where needed. Chambers is the likely starter at strong safety.

Both placekicker Hap Hines and punter Wynn Kopp are back.

Depth Chart

OFFENSE (4)

SE	3	Thad Parker (Jr., 2)	80	Jermaine Phillips (Jr., 1)
LT	61	Kelvin Williams (Sr., 1)	78	Jon Stinchcomb (Fr., 0)
LG	**73**	**Steven Herndon (Sr., 3)**	66	Brad Register (Jr., 2)
C	**59**	**Miles Luckie (Sr., 2)**	55	Brady Pate (Jr., 2)
RG	63	Reggie Stargill (Jr., 2)	74	Jeremy Lewis (Jr., 1)
RT	75	Jonas Jennings (Jr., 2)	64	Chad Young (Fr., 0)
TE	48	Jevaris Johnson (Jr., 2)	86	Randy McMichael (So., 0)
QB	**17**	**Quincy Carter (So., 1)**	8	Jon England (Sr., 2)
FB	30	Rob Arnaud (Sr., 3)	28	Jasper Sanks (So., 1)
TB	6	Patrick Pass (Sr., 3)	20	Nick Callaway (So., 1)
FL	**36**	**Michael Greer (Jr., 2)**		Reggie Brown (Fr., 0)

DEFENSE (6)

DE	**44**	**Adrian Hollingshed (Jr., 2)**	92	Demetric Evans (Jr., 1)
DT	93	Richard Seymour (Jr., 2)	98	Josh Mallard (So., 1)
NG	**97**	**Marcus Stroud (Jr., 2)**	51	Brandon Miller (Sr., 3)
DE	**50**	**Dustin Luckie (Sr., 2)**	85	Terin Smith (So., 1)
LB	45	Boss Bailey (So., 1)	5	Kawika Mitchell (Fr., 0)
LB	46	Will Witherspoon (So., 1)	42	Tony Gilbert (Fr., 0)
LB	**58**	**Orantes Grant (Sr., 3)**		Kendrell Bell (Jr., 0)
CB	9	Jamie Henderson (So., 0)	23	Cap Burnett (So., 0)
CB	**13**	**Jeff Harris (Sr., 3)**	15	Terreal Bierria (Fr., 0)
SS	29	Earl Chambers (Sr., 3)	26	Cory Robinson (Jr., 2)
FS	**1**	**Larry Mann (Sr., 3)**	10	Quentin Davis (Sr., 3)

SPECIAL TEAMS

K	41	Hap Hines (Sr., 3)
P	24	Wynn Kopp (So., 1)
KR	6	Patrick Pass (Sr., 3)
PR	36	Michael Greer (Jr., 2)

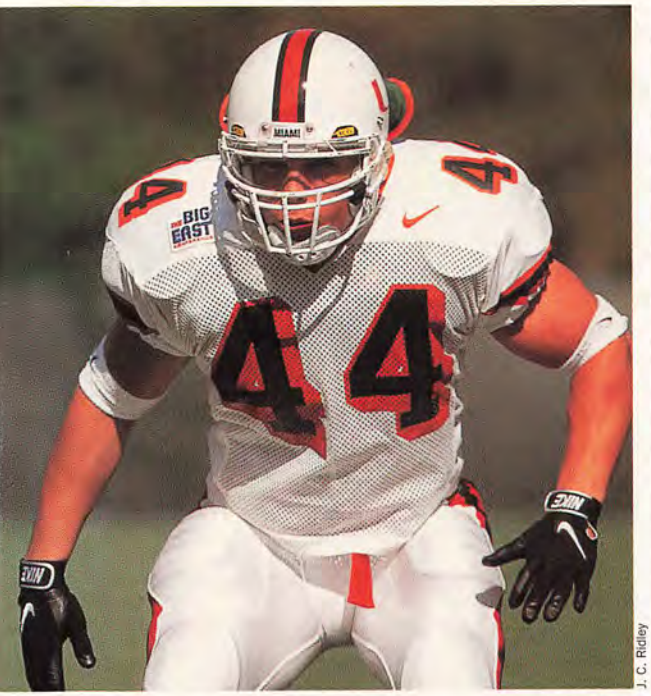
(#) Indicates number of returning starters
***BOLD** indicates returning starters*
NUMBER after class indicates letters won

Head Coach: Jim Donnan — **1998 Record (SEC): 9–3 (6–2)**
1999 Prediction: 2nd SEC East — **Sanford Stadium (86,117)**

Miami Hurricanes

14

Talk of national championships hasn't been heard in some time at the University of Miami. But the return of 17 starters from last season's 9–3 team and a freshman class ranked among the nation's best has raised hopes on the Coral Gables campus again. Still, Miami coach Butch Davis has a word of warning.



J. C. Ridley

Dan Morgan

"This year, there's excitement about what we can accomplish and achieve," says Davis. "But there are a lot of things that have to happen before we're a legitimate Top 10 contender."

29 The number of players returning who started at least one game for the Hurricanes in 1998, including 17 of 22 players who started a minimum of six games.

Foremost is the resurrection of a defense that has given up record-setting numbers over the past two seasons. In order to change that trend, former Chicago Bears assistant coach Greg Schiano was hired as defensive coordinator to implement, according to Davis, a "change in philosophy." Schiano benefits from the return of 10 defensive starters.

None of the three quarterbacks on Miami's roster has ever started a game, but there is no question Kenny Kelly will break the huddle when the Hurricanes begin the season against Ohio State. Untested but talented, the sophomore has been handed the job to replace Scott Covington.

Edgerrin James left Miami following a junior season in which he set the school single-season record for rushing with 1,572 yards. Still, the Hurricanes shouldn't miss a beat with the return of James Jackson, who has predicted he'll contend for the Heisman Trophy, and Najeh Davenport. The bruising Davenport had a team-high average of 6.6 yards per carry last season, although he did display a habit of fumbling. Davenport is likely to see action at fullback as well as tailback.

There is concern about the health of leading receiver Reggie Wayne, who tore his left ACL last December and missed the final two games and all of spring practice. But Miami will be strong at the wideout position.

Junior Santana Moss is Miami's most explosive receiver. Moss led the Hurricanes in reception yards (631) and per catch average (21.0) while earning second team All-Big East honors.

Wayne and Moss are joined by Andre King, who will be 26 when the 1999 season is over, and Daryl Jones. King and Jones combined for 43 receptions last season in limited duty.

Tight end Daniel Franks is described by the Miami coaching staff as the "complete package".

Four starters and every backup return from an offensive line that progressively got better last year. The best is gritty guard Richard Mercier, who overcame a serious knee injury two years ago to become a first-team All-Big East selection. The other returning starters are right tackle and Big East Rookie of the Year Joaquin Gonzalez, center Ty Wise and tackle Robert Hall. The only opening is at right guard, where Eric Schnupp and Brett Romberg will compete.

Miami followers continue to wait for defensive tackle Damione Lewis to emerge as the next great Hurricane lineman, but it hasn't happened. Including Lewis, the four defensive linemen expected to start combined for only nine sacks last season.

Ends Michael Boireau and Quincy Hipps are being counted on to provide pressure. Tackle Matt Sweeney started each of Miami's 12 games last season.

Junior linebackers Dan Morgan and Nate Webster finished 1–2 in the Big East in tackles and were the prime force in Miami's improvement against the run. Strong-side linebacker Michael Smith, a senior, is the most physically talented of the group, but his production has been spotty.

There is concern over the health of cornerback Leonard Myers, Miami's best cover man, after two knee surgeries over a three-month period. Cornerback Markese Fitzgerald played very well at times last season, and strong safety Edward Reed showed a knack for the big play and big hits. Free safety Al Blades has linebacker size, which allows him to be utilized in Miami's eight-man front.

Punter-kicker Andy Crosland has served in both roles for three seasons but may be in jeopardy of losing at least one of the jobs. Strong-legged Todd Sievers, who handles kickoffs, will push Crosland for placekicking duties, while walk-on Freddie Capshaw has a chance to unseat Crosland as the punter.

Depth Chart

OFFENSE (7)

SE	**87 Reggie Wayne (Jr., 2)**	84 Andre King (Jr., 2)
LT	**77 Robert Hall (Sr., 2)**	76 Robert Sampson (Sr., 2)
LG	**62 Richard Mercier (Sr., 3)**	65 Martin Bibla (So., 1)
C	**64 Ty Wise (Sr., 3)**	63 Scott Puckett (So., 1)
RG	56 Eric Schnupp (Sr. 1)	66 Brett Romberg (So., 1)
RT	**73 Joaquin Gonzalez (So., 1)**	79 Greg Laffere (Jr., 0)
TE	**88 Daniel Franks (Jr., 2)**	82 Dan Smith (So., 1)
FL	**6 Santana Moss (Jr., 2)**	1 Daryl Jones (Jr., 2)
QB	15 Kenny Kelly (So., 1)	12 Zachary Hart (Jr., 0)
FB	18 Mondriel Fulcher (Sr., 2)	35 Will McPartland (Jr., 1)
TB	21 James Jackson (Jr., 2)	4 Najeh Davenport (So., 1)

DEFENSE (10)

LE	**90 Quincy Hipps (Jr., 2)**	50 Jevon Rhodes (Jr., 0)
LT	**98 Matt Sweeney (Sr., 3)**	96 Adrian Wilson (Jr., 2)
RT	**92 Damione Lewis (Jr., 2)**	99 Clint Hurtt (So., 1)
RE	93 Michael Boireau (Sr., 1)	95 Brian Stinson (Jr., 1)
LB	**59 Michael Smith (Sr., 3)**	48 Chris Campbell (So., 1)
LB	**52 Nate Webster (Jr., 1)**	41 Sheven Marshall (So., 1)
LB	**44 Dan Morgan (Jr., 2)**	43 James Sutton (Sr., 2)
LC	**22 Leonard Myers (Jr., 2)**	3 Nick Ward (Sr., 3)
RC	**27 Markese Fitzgerald (So., 1)**	8 Mike Rumph (So., 1)
SS	**20 Edward Reed (So., 1)**	33 Jeff Popovich (Sr., 3)
FS	**7 Al Blades (Jr., 1)**	24 Delvin Brown (Jr., 2)

SPECIAL TEAMS

K	17 Andy Crosland (Sr., 3)
P	17 Andy Crosland (Sr., 3)
KR	4 Najeh Davenport (So., 1)
PR	3 Nick Ward (Sr., 3)

(#) Indicates number of returning starters
***BOLD** indicates returning starters*
NUMBER after class indicates letters won

Head Coach: Butch Davis **1998 Record (Big East): 9–3 (5–2)**
1999 Prediction: 2nd Big East **Orange Bowl (74,476)**

Ohio State Buckeyes

15

So the Ohio State Buckeyes failed — again — in their pursuit of the national title.

Coach John Cooper is 97–33–4 at Ohio State, second in wins only to the legendary Woody Hayes, and his Buckeyes have had at least 10 victories each of the last four years, but he still quests for that elusive title.

Joe Robbins

Michael Wiley

To achieve that kind of success again, Cooper will have to replace nine starters, including three All-Americans and quarterback Joe Germaine. The source of Cooper's success, however, is his ability to play young players early and often. So when one hole appears, he has someone ready to fill it.

10 The number of weeks the Buckeyes spent as the nation's No. 1-ranked team last season. They watched that ranking slip away when their 15-point lead over Michigan State midway through the third quarter disintegrated in an upset.

After a couple of years of a two-quarterback rotation, Germaine took over last year, offered stability, set some records and nearly led the Buckeyes to a national title. But Germaine is gone, and two sophomores have been battling for the starting job this year. It appears lefty Steve Bellisari has it. Bellisari became a fan favorite last year as the Buckeyes' co-Special Teams Player of the Year. He also practiced at strong safety. Not to be underestimated is Austin Moherman, a classic drop-back passer with a strong arm.

In six of the last nine years, the Buckeyes have produced a 1,000-yard rusher. One of those was Michael Wiley, who gained 1,235 yards last season and returns for his final year.

Two-year senior starter Matt Keller is back at fullback.

The receiving duo of David Boston and Dee Miller are in the NFL now, and that leaves the Buckeyes in a jam. Or does it?

It might take some getting used to, but try it — Germany and Rambo. Junior Reggie Germany was the third-best wide receiver last season. Junior Ken-Yon Rambo will start at flanker. He is quick and keeps getting better. Senior tight end Steve Wisniewski is used for blocking.

Only right tackle Brooks Burris is missing from the group of five starters on the line. The remaining four, three of whom are seniors, average a puny 6'5", 297 pounds, and likely filling Burris' vacancy is delicate Henry Fleming, a 6'7", 305-pound junior. Left tackle Tyson Walter, a junior, is a 25-game starter. Left guard Rob Murphy is a two-time All-American. Kurt Murphy is a two-year starter at center, and right guard Ben Gilbert was voted by the coaches as the top lineman last season.

The defensive line is set and solid with the return of four starters and all their backups. Brent Johnson and Rodney Bailey are the ends, and Ryan Pickett and Joe Brown are the tackles.

There are two major holes in the linebacker corps that helped make the Buckeyes the No. 1 team in the country against the run. Middle linebacker Andy Katzenmoyer, a three-year starter and Butkus Award winner, left with a year of eligibility remaining, and Jerry Rudzinski, the emotional leader of the defense, is gone. Returning to reap the headlines is junior Na'il Diggs, a first-team All-Big Ten selection last year who had 80 tackles and six sacks. Senior Chris Kirk likely will take over for Katzenmoyer, although sophomore Jason Ott will make a run. Kirk, however, has seen a bit more playing time as Katzenmoyer's backup the last three years.

Sophomore Courtland Bullard sat out last season with a medical redshirt, but he possesses the speed for the outside spot to replace Rudzinski.

Free safety Gary Berry and cornerback Ahmed Plummer, both seniors, return from what many considered the finest secondary in the country. But gone are Thorpe Award-winning cornerback Antoine Winfield and three-year starting strong safety Damon Moore. Senior Percy King, a big hitter who has played in 27 games and blocked three kicks, will replace Moore. Sophomore Nate Clements became the nickel back in the final six games last season and will try to fill Winfield's huge shoes. Berry, considered the best pure athlete in the backfield, offers big-play potential, while Plummer would like to give the Buckeyes a second-straight Thorpe Award. He had a team-best 17 pass breakups last season and four interceptions.

Kicker Dan Stultz returns to kick. Punting is still a question mark with freshman B.J. Sander the frontrunner for the job. Rambo will return kicks again and Rambo might inherit the punt return duties as well.

Depth Chart

OFFENSE (6)

SE	30 Reggie Germany (Jr., 2)	81 Darik Warnke (Jr.,1)
LT	**77 Tyson Walter (Jr., 2)**	69 Jim Massey (So., 0)
LG	**56 Rob Murphy (Sr., 3)**	65 Mike Gurr (Jr., 2)
C	**63 Kurt Murphy (Sr., 3)**	68 LeCharles Bentley (So., 1)
RG	**64 Ben Gilbert (Sr., 3)**	70 Scott Kuhnhein (Fr., 0)
RT	75 Henry Fleming (Jr., 2)	55 Tam Hopkins (Jr., 2)
TE	84 Steve Wisniewski (Sr., 2)	87 Kevin Houser (Sr., 3)
QB	8 Steve Bellisari (So., 1)	12 Austin Moherman (So., 0)
FB	**23 Matt Keller (Sr., 3)**	39 Jamar Martin (So., 1)
TB	**5 Michael Wiley (Sr., 3)**	43 Derek Combs (Jr., 2)
FL	4 Ken-Yon Rambo (Jr., 2)	18 Tony Locke (Jr., 0)

DEFENSE (7)

DE	**94 Rodney Bailey (Jr., 2)**	48 Matt LaVrar (Sr., 3)
DT	**79 Ryan Pickett (So., 1)**	90 Clinton Wayne (Jr., 2)
DT	**73 Joe Brown (Jr., 2)**	98 Mike Collins (So., 1)
DE	**60 Brent Johnson (Jr., 1)**	52 James Cotton (Sr., 1)
LB	**32 Na'il Diggs (Jr., 2)**	10 Joe Cooper (Jr., 1)
LB	44 Chris Kirk (Sr., 3)	30 Jason Ott (So., 1)
LB	58 Courtland Bullard (So., 1)	49 Tim Cheatwood (So., 1)
CB	20 Nate Clements (So., 1)	3 David Mitchell (Jr., 2)
CB	**19 Ahmed Plummer (Sr., 3)**	7 Derek Ross (So., 1)
SS	17 Percy King (Sr., 2)	25 Donnie Nickey (Fr., 0)
FS	**1 Gary Berry (Sr., 3)**	3 David Mitchell (Jr., 2)

SPECIAL TEAMS

K	47 Dan Stultz (Jr., 2)
P	B.J. Sander (Fr., 0)
KR	4 Ken-Yon Rambo (Jr., 2)
PR	4 Ken-Yon Rambo (Jr., 2)

(#) Indicates number of returning starters
***BOLD** indicates returning starters*
NUMBER after class indicates letters won

Head Coach: John Cooper — **1998 Record (Big 10): 11–1 (7–1)**
1999 Prediction: 4th Big 10 — **Ohio Stadium (89,841)**

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Colorado Buffaloes

16

Gary Barnett hopes to take Colorado back to the future — in his words, a "return to dominance."

That's the plan, anyway, and Barnett has indicated he will implement it immediately.

The former Buffalo assistant, who succeeded Rick Neuheisel as head coach, has the necessary components for immediate success, with starters returning at 16 positions and an experienced quarterback.

John Hudetz

Ben Kelly

Coaching transitions are rarely easy, however, so Barnett might have to be patient.

When he went to Northwestern as head coach, his approach was "ready, fire, aim," he says. "I'm not going to do that here."

$250,000 The cost of buying out Barnett's contract at Northwestern. Barnett was reportedly the first choice, but the buyout issue was not solved until Denver Broncos' assistant Gary Kubiak turned down the job.

The resolve of senior Mike Moschetti cannot be questioned. He played with a cracked rib during the second half of last season. He never missed a start, however, and was chosen Big 12 Newcomer of the Year by conference coaches. He has proven to be an efficient passer, completing 162-of-276 for 2,104 yards and 15 touchdowns and at age 24, Moschetti's maturity is a plus.

The running game is a problem that Barnett hopes senior Dwayne Cherrington, junior Damion Barton and sophomore Cortlen Johnson will solve, but none of the three have excelled thus far. The Buffaloes ranked 11th in the Big 12 and 88th nationally in rushing offense.

At wideout, senior Marcus Stiggers and junior Javon Green have sprinter's speed, as does sophomore Cedric Cormier, who is coming off a knee injury suffered midway through last season. Junior Tom Ashworth, coming off knee surgery that sidelined him in the spring, is a competent tight end. His strength is as a blocker. Sophomore Miles Koon is a better receiver, and that might put him in the starting lineup.

Injuries contributed to the shortcomings of the offensive line, which was responsible for an ineffective running game, as well as 49 sacks for 374 yards in losses. Now, assuming everyone remains healthy, the line should be a strength. All of the starters are listed at 310 pounds or more, and three stand 6'7": versatile Ryan Johanningmeier and Shane Cook, both seniors, and Victor Rogers, a sophomore. Senior Brad Bedell and sophomore Andre Gurode round out the huge, talented five-some.

Defensively, Barnett will stay with a 4–3 base alignment, though there will be some modifications. The Buffaloes ranked 13th nationally in total defense, but only 49th against the run.

The tackles are active. Senior Jesse Warren, a solid pass rusher, had 5.5 sacks. Sophomore Justin Bannan and junior Sean Jarne provide muscle inside.

Junior Brady McDonnell, a converted tight end, is solid if not spectacular at end. Redshirt freshman Tyler Brayton could be spectacular before he's finished.

Senior Fred Jones has a new position, though only in name. He's now a rush outside linebacker, but pressuring the passer will continue to be among his primary responsibilities. Jones is a big-play defender, forcing a team-high three fumbles and making 10 tackles for loss.

Sophomore Robert Haas has size but no experience at the drop outside linebacker.

Junior Ty Gregorak's strength is stopping the run. He's being compared to former Colorado inside linebackers Greg Biekert, Chad Brown, Ted Johnson and Matt Russell. Once he got the opportunity to prove himself, sophomore Jashon Sykes quickly established himself as a force inside.

The Buffaloes led the Big 12 and ranked fourth nationally in pass defense, and two key players return in the secondary: cornerbacks Ben Kelly, a junior, and Damen Wheeler, a senior. Wheeler was third in the Big 12 in breakups with 17. But he was only second among the Buffaloes behind Kelly, who broke up a school-record and conference-leading 22 passes and intercepted four others. Senior free safety Rashidi Barnes returns after being sidelined at midseason by a knee injury. Junior John Sanders is back at strong safety, with converted linebacker Albus Brooks in reserve.

One of the nation's premier kick returners, Kelly helped Colorado rank third in the nation in punt returns and fourth in kickoff returns. Senior placekicker Jeremy Aldrich is reliable. Senior punter Nick Pietsch averaged 41.5 yards in 1998.

Depth Chart

OFFENSE (9)

WR	19	**Javon Green (Jr., 2)**	17	Robert Toler (Sr., 3)
LT	71	Victor Rogers (So., 1)	73	Kane Cullum (Sr., 2)
LG	58	**Ryan Johanningmeier (Sr., 3)**	62	**Chris Morgan (Sr., 2)**
C	65	**Andre Gurode (So., 1)**	64	Martin Simmons (Sr., 2)
RG	76	**Brad Bedell (Sr., 1)**	77	Justin Bates (Fr., 0)
RT	72	**Shane Cook (Sr., 3)**	75	Erin Huizingh (So., 1)
TE	88	Miles Koon (So., 1)	87	**Tom Ashworth (Jr., 2)**
QB	4	**Mike Moschetti (Sr., 1)**	12	Adam Bledsoe (Jr., 2)
FB	45	David Andrews (So., 1)	33	Brandon Drumm (Fr., 0)
RB	10	Dwayne Cherrington (Sr., 3)	27	Cortlen Johnson (So., 1)
WR	2	**Marcus Stiggers (Sr., 3)**	83	John Minardi (So., 1)

DEFENSE (7)

RE	13	**Fred Jones (Sr., 2)**	80	Ian Loper (Jr., 2)
NT	97	**Justin Bannan (So., 1)**	95	Sam Taulealea (Fr., 0)
DT	94	Sean Jarne (Jr., 2)	98	Jesse Warren (Sr., 3)
DE	82	**Brady McDonnell (Jr., 2)**	99	Tyler Brayton (Fr., 0)
LB	35	Ty Gregorak (Jr., 2)	56	Aaron Killion (Fr., 0)
LB	7	Jashon Sykes (So., 1)	6	Scott Nemeth (So., 1)
LB	30	Robert Haas (So., 1)	16	Drew Wahlroos (Fr., 0)
CB	2	**Damen Wheeler (Sr., 3)**	4	Donald Strickland (Fr., 0)
CB	1	**Ben Kelly (Jr., 2)**	25	Nate Wright (So., 1)
SS	26	**John Sanders (Jr., 2)**	21	**Albus Brooks (So., 1)**
FS	3	Rashidi Barnes (Sr., 3)	32	Vince Reed (Fr., 0)

SPECIAL TEAMS

K	9	Jeremy Aldrich (Sr., 3)
P	47	Nick Pietsch (Sr., 3)
KR	1	Ben Kelly (Jr., 2)
PR	1	Ben Kelly (Jr., 2)

(#) Indicates number of returning starters
***BOLD** indicates returning starters*
NUMBER after class indicates letters won

Head Coach: Gary Barnett **1998 Record (Big 12): 8–4 (4–4)**
1999 Prediction: 2nd Big 12 North **Folsom Field (51,808)**

Florida Gators

17

Steve Spurrier is not accustomed to being in anybody's rear-view mirror, but that's exactly where the Florida Gators and their coach have been the last two seasons. Even though the Gators whipped Tennessee at Gainesville in 1997 and lost only after five turnovers and a missed chip-shot field goal in overtime at Knoxville in '98, Florida is the second-best football program in the Southeastern Conference and has been for two years.

End of story. Or is it?

"We never feel like we're second best," says Spurrier, one of only two major college coaches to win at least 10 games in six straight seasons. "We messed up once last year, that's all. And twice the year before."

Mark Langello

Doug Johnson

27 Number of consecutive victories for the Gators at The Swamp, the longest such streak in the nation. The Gators' last home defeat came on Oct. 15, 1994, in a 36–33 thriller against Auburn.

Florida wants to return to the throne of college football's best conference. It won't be easy. The defense must replace nine starters, including two first-round NFL draft choices, linebacker Jevon Kearse and defensive tackle Reggie McGrew. Defensive coordinator Bob Stoops is now head coach at Oklahoma.

Senior quarterback Doug Johnson has been productive the last two seasons, going 11–3 as a starter. But Johnson knows his legacy will be incomplete unless he does what Shane Matthews, Terry Dean and Danny Wuerffel did before him: win an SEC championship. He passed for 2,346 yards and 19 touchdowns as a junior. Junior backup Jesse Palmer could start at many high-profile programs. In fact, he started Florida's first six games in '98, and completed 59 percent of his throws for 14 touchdowns and just five interceptions. He'll wait his turn this year, however.

Florida ranked — get this — 95th in the nation in rushing last season without a breakaway runner. The Gators hope their tailback-by-committee approach, featuring redshirt freshmen Earnest Graham and Chuck Marks and sophomore Robert Gillespie, can get the running game going. Junior Rod Frazier, a 230-pounder, is the returning starter at fullback.

Mark down junior Travis Taylor as the next big-time pass-catcher for the Gators. Taylor has good size (6'1", 188) and will be the team's top target after a 37-catch, 676-yard, nine-TD season that he padded with an MVP performance (seven receptions, 159 yards, two TDs) in the Orange Bowl. John Capel is arguably the fastest player in the college game. Now, if his hands could only catch on as fast as his legs.

Spurrier hopes the hiring of former Gator and Dallas Cowboys guard John Hunt to coach offensive tackles will help reaffirm Florida as a team that can move the ball on the ground. Florida returns six linemen who have been starters during their careers. Senior guards Ryan Kalich and Cheston Blackshear probably have been the most consistent of the bunch, with center Zac Zedalis showing the most improvement last year. Senior Cooper Carlisle isn't ready to relinquish his job to a youngster just yet.

On the defensive line, junior tackle Derrick Chambers is the most experienced returnee, having filled in when Ed Chester was lost to injury, but he was moved outside in the spring. He'll start at end opposite speedy and athletic sophomore Alex Brown. Seniors Thaddeus Bullard and Anthony Mitchell and junior Buck Gurley provide depth on the outside.

The move of Chambers leaves a cupboard of inexperienced players inside. Sophomore Gerard Warren is probably the best of a youthful bunch.

Kearse, Mike Peterson and Johnny Rutledge will be playing on Sundays this year, leaving linebacker Keith Kelsey to make a name for himself. Kelsey is a big-hitting senior who needs to show up in great shape and assume a leadership role on the weak side. Seldom-used sophomore Andra Davis had an impressive spring to solidify his spot in the middle. Redshirt freshman Marcus Oquendo-Johnson is vying with converted tailback Eugene McCaslin for the other spot.

Rod Graddy is a solid, though not spectacular, strong safety. The free safety is lanky sophomore Lester Norwood. Bennie Alexander, an outstanding open-field tackler, and classmate Robert Cromartie were pressed into action due to injury or off-the-field matters; their experience should pay off in '99.

Jeff Chandler is the kicker. Punter Dave Wasielewski averaged 40.4 yards per attempt.

Depth Chart

OFFENSE (7)

WR	19	Travis Taylor (Jr., 2)	80	Alex Willis (Jr., 1)
LT	**70**	**Cooper Carlisle (Sr., 3)**	71	Mike Pearson (Fr., 0)
LG	**51**	**Ryan Kalich (Sr., 3)**	75	Ben Brown (So., 1)
C	**74**	**Zac Zedalis (Jr., 2)**	62	Corey Yarbrough (Sr., 3)
RG	**77**	**Cheston Blackshear (Sr., 3)**	79	Leon Hires (Jr., 0)
RT	**78**	**Kenyatta Walker (So., 1)**	63	Aaron Deal (Fr., 0)
TE	88	Erron Kinney (Sr., 3)	83	Kirk Wells (Fr., 0)
QB	**12**	**Doug Johnson (Sr., 3)**	7	Jesse Palmer (Jr., 2)
FB	**40**	**Rod Frazier (Jr., 2)**	46	Rob Roberts (So., 1)
TB	5	Earnest Graham (Fr., 0)	20	Robert Gillespie (So., 1)
WR	9	Darrell Jackson (Jr., 2)	17	Reche Caldwell (Fr., 0)

DEFENSE (2)

DE	91	Derrick Chambers (Jr., 2)	99	Buck Gurley (Jr., 2)
DT	52	Chris Reynolds (Fr., 0)	97	Jayme Campbell (Jr., 1)
DT	61	Gerard Warren (So., 1)	93	Thomas Moody (So., 0)
DE	13	Alex Brown (So., 1)	98	Anthony Mitchell (Sr., 3)
LB	32	Eugene McCaslin (Sr., 3)	50	M. Oquendo-Johnson (Fr., 0)
LB	45	Andra Davis (So., 1)	56	Daryl Owens (Jr., 2)
LB	41	Keith Kelsey (Sr., 3)	39	Teddy Sims (Jr., 2)
CB	25	Robert Cromartie (So., 1)	28	Marquis Westbrook (Fr., 0)
CB	**30**	**Bennie Alexander (So., 1)**	23	Demetrius Lewis (Sr., 3)
SS	**47**	**Rod Graddy (Jr., 2)**	4	Marquand Manuel (So., 1)
FS	21	Lester Norwood (So., 1)	3	Todd Johnson (Fr., 0)

SPECIAL TEAMS

K	49	Jeff Chandler (Jr., 1)
P	44	David Wasielewski (So., 1)
KR	2	Bo Carroll (Jr., 2)
PR	10	John Capel (So., 1)

(#) Indicates number of returning starters
***BOLD** indicates returning starters*
NUMBER after class indicates letters won

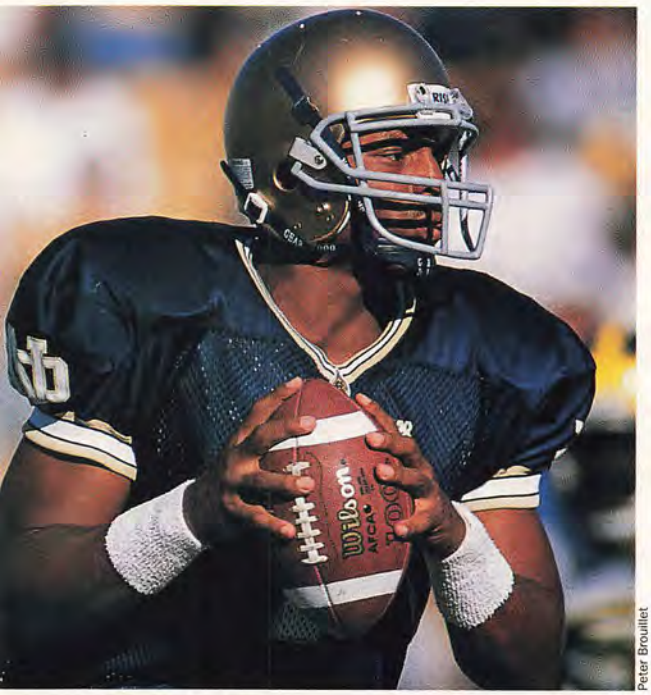
Head Coach: Steve Spurrier — **1998 Record (SEC): 10–2 (7–1)**
1999 Prediction: 3rd SEC East — **Florida Field (83,000)**

Notre Dame Fighting Irish

18

The coach is a realist. The believers keep humming the "Victory March." The coach is honest. The believers seek inspiration. The coach demands steady progress toward a national championship. The believers aren't that patient.

And you thought Bob Davie's job was getting easier?



Peter Brouillet

Jarious Jackson

From the time Davie became the successor to Lou Holtz as head coach at Notre Dame near the end of the 1996 season, the most demanding constituency in American sports established an immediate target date. Davie's third season would provide the measurement of his program's success. In the minds of the faithful, there is little room for error this year.

222 The combined career rushing yards of returning tailbacks Tony Driver, Tony Fisher and Darcey Levy. The figure is 4,096 less than the total of departed tailback Autry Denson, Notre Dame's career rushing leader.

Unfortunately for Davie, the history of the program has established a coach's third season as a national championship success or the road to ruin. Every Notre Dame coach to lead a team to a national championship has earned at least a share of one in his third season.

When the possibility of championship contention in 1999 was raised in a question during a press conference last November, Davie began to caution against expecting too much, too soon.

Quarterback Jarious Jackson suffered a sprained knee in the waning moments of the victory over LSU, and his absence from the sloppy 10–0 loss at USC in the regular season finale confirmed his value. The offense can now be built with confidence around Jackson's accurate throws (55.3 percent completions), his decision-making ability (six interceptions in 188 attempts) and the constant threat he presents to make something out of nothing.

Junior Tony Driver, a prize recruit two years ago, returns to tailback full-time after a year at strong safety. Sophomore Tony Fisher, Ohio's Mr. Football in 1997, and junior Darcey Levy could make tailback a three-man rotation. Notre Dame is almost too deep at fullback, with senior Joey Goodspeed, junior Jason Murray and sophomores Mike McNair and Tom Lopienski all in the 250-260-pound range and fighting for the job.

Senior wideout Bobby Brown averaged 22 yards per catch in 1998. Seniors Raki Nelson and Jay Johnson, junior Joey Getherall and sophomores David Givens and Javin Hunter will challenge opposing secondaries with fresh bodies. Junior Jabari Holloway emerged as an important factor at tight end, and senior Dan O'Leary gives the Irish the option of an effective two-tight-end formation.

Senior center John Merandi is the lone returning full-time starter in the offensive line. Senior B.J. Scott, a veteran of defensive line action, made a successful move to center this spring and will spell Merandi this fall. Sophomore Jordan Black and juniors John Teasdale and Kurt Vollers lead the candidates at tackle. Senior Mike Gandy is the most experienced of the guards — he started the last three games — followed by senior Jim Jones and sophomore Ryan Scarola.

Junior Grant Irons has made the anticipated move from linebacker to the defensive line, where all four starters — tackles Brad Williams and Lance Legree and ends Lamont Bryant and Anthony Weaver — return. Weaver was an 11-game starter last year as a true freshman. Battle-hardened seniors Jason Ching and Antwon Jones join Irons in the reserve ranks.

There is optimism at linebacker after senior Joe Ferrer, junior Anthony Denman and sophomore Rocky Boiman made significant contributions in backup roles. Senior Ronnie Nicks is perhaps the team's hardest hitter and will start in the middle after battling injuries most of his career. Sophomores Carlos Pierre-Antoine and Tyreo Harrison could have breakthrough seasons.

Senior safeties Deke Cooper, a big play maker, and A'Jani Sanders will steady the secondary. Sophomores Clifford Jefferson and Donald Dykes will challenge last year's starting cornerbacks, senior Deveron Harper and junior Brock Williams.

Jim Sanson overcame an off-season injury problem to make 11-of-15 field goals. Sophomore David Miller and freshmen Nick Setta and Joey Hildbold all have a chance to earn the punting job. Davie expects one or more of the newcomers to add explosiveness to the return game.

Depth Chart

OFFENSE (4)

SE	88	**Bobby Brown (Sr., 3)**	9	Raki Nelson (Sr., 3)
LT	78	Jordan Black (So., 0)	75	Kurt Vollers (Jr., 0)
LG	55	Jim Jones (Sr., 0)	72	Ryan Scarola (So., 0)
C	64	**John Merandi (Sr., 2)**		B.J. Scott (Sr., 1)
RG	69	Mike Gandy (Sr., 1)	73	Jeff Roehl (So., 0)
RT	76	John Teasdale (Jr., 1)	68	Matt Brennan (Sr., 0)
TE	87	**Jabari Holloway (Jr., 2)**	86	Dan O'Leary (Sr., 2)
QB	7	**Jarious Jackson (Sr., 3)**	3	Arnaz Battle (So., 1)
FB	45	Joey Goodspeed (Sr., 3)	47	Mike McNair (So., 0)
TB	25	Tony Driver (Jr., 2)	12	Tony Fisher (So., 1)
FL	14	David Givens (So., 1)	18	Joey Getherall (Jr., 2)

DEFENSE (8)

LE	98	**Anthony Weaver (So., 1)**	99	Jason Ching (Sr., 1)
LT	90	**Lance Legree (Sr., 2)**	94	Andy Wisne (Jr., 0)
RT	77	**Brad Williams (Sr., 3)**	85	Antwon Jones (Sr., 3)
RE	53	**Lamont Bryant (Sr., 3)**	44	Grant Irons (Jr., 2)
LB	30	Rocky Boiman (So., 1)	41	Joe Ferrer (Sr., 2)
LB	34	Ronnie Nicks (Sr., 2)	20	Carlos Pierre-Antoine (So., 0)
LB	39	Anthony Denman (Jr., 2)	51	Tyreo Harrison (So., 0)
LC	10	**Deveron Harper (Sr., 3)**	15	Clifford Jefferson (So., 0)
RC	38	**Brock Williams (Jr., 2)**	28	Donald Dykes (So., 0)
SS	5	**A'Jani Sanders (Sr., 3)**	26	Lee Lafayette (Sr., 2)
FS	1	**Deke Cooper (Sr., 3)**	37	Ron Israel (Jr., 1)

SPECIAL TEAMS

K	19	Jim Sanson (Sr., 3)
P	35	David Miller (So., 0)
KR	25	Tony Driver (Jr., 2)
PR	18	Joey Getherall (Jr., 2)

(#) Indicates number of returning starters
***BOLD** indicates returning starters*
NUMBER after class indicates letters won

Head Coach: Bob Davie — **1998 Record: 10–2**

Notre Dame Stadium (80,225)

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Virginia Cavaliers

19

Virginia's Cavaliers spent three weeks in the top 10, finished 18th in both polls and once again blew an opportunity for a breakthrough season. This is one of those almost-but-not-quite programs that toys with greatness and, in the process, teases its fans.

Coach George Welsh assesses where his team has been, what it's done, and says, "Since 1995, I think we've had the talent to do better than we've done."

Now, in Welsh's 18th season at Virginia, the Cavaliers figure to be good but not good enough.

Richard Cariotti

Noel LaMontagne

12 Virginia has won at least seven games for the last 12 seasons, a string matched only by I-A powerhouses Florida State, Michigan and Nebraska.

Former prep All-America quarterback Dan Ellis takes over after wasting two seasons as a seldom-used backup to Aaron Brooks. Not making things any easier for Ellis is a switch in offensive coordinators. The nonlettering junior has a strong arm and is a quick learner, but isn't as mobile as the slithery Brooks. In the spring, Welsh made it sound like David Rivers, who has done virtually nothing for two years, could beat out Ellis. With the possible exception of Ellis, no one believed Welsh when he said he wouldn't be against a freshman — Matt Schaub or Bryson Spinner — serving as backup.

The ACC's leading rusher in 1998 with 1,303 yards, Thomas Jones has started 23 straight games, and he will have to be just as durable again. Antwoine Womack, second-team all-conference with 708 yards rushing, took a leave of absence from the team. In the meantime, redshirt freshman Arlen Harris filled in as No. 2 tailback in the spring and eased any doubts as to depth at the position. Anthony Southern does all the things that can be asked of a fullback.

If the Cavaliers have had a glaring weakness, the receiver corps is it. Leading receiver Terrence Wilkins is gone and Jones was second with 28 catches for 179 yards and two TDs. Kevin Coffey averaged 25.4 yards for 23 receptions, scoring five touchdowns, but he could be invisible at times. James Johnson has the inside track at the other wideout spot. But Ahmad Hawkins and Demetrius Dotson are more experienced hands and are still in the running. Tight end Casey Crawford, who made first-team All-ACC, will have to be involved more as a receiver.

The league's best rushing game — by far — says something about the run blocking. That should be good again despite the loss of two starters. From tackle to tackle the line averages 302 pounds. Noel LaMontagne, who can play guard or tackle, was all-conference. Tackle Josh Lawson started every game last year as a freshman. John St. Clair returns for his senior season at center, with guard Evan Routzahn and tackle Brad Barnes rounding out the starting five.

The loss of All-American end Patrick Kerney and tackle Antonio Dingle is huge. Defensive coordinator Rick Lantz has some major holes to fill. Darryl Sanders and Ljubomir Stamenich get first crack at Kerney's spot at right end, although returning starter Travis Griffith could move over from the left side. There is some depth at tackle, with Maurice Anderson and Monsanto Pope, each of whom started five games a year ago, plus the return of Johnny Shivers from academic probation. Kofi Bawuah will make Shivers work to claim the right tackle job.

The outside linebackers, Byron Thweatt and Donny Green, ranked 2-3 on the team in tackles and are all-conference material. But the return of Shannon Taylor, who sat out the '98 season for personal and academic reasons, could complicate things. He might be the team's best at rushing the passer and could see some time at end, too. Yubrenal Isabelle is penciled in at middle linebacker after notching 23 tackles in a reserve capacity.

The graduation of All-American and ACC Defensive Player of the Year Anthony Poindexter at safety is a blow that may have been softened by the move of Antwan Harris from cornerback. The other safety looks like a battle between Duane Fisher and redshirt freshman Shernard Newby that might not be determined until the season opens. Barring injury, the corners are set with Dwayne Stukes and Tim Spruill.

The Cavaliers have both their placekicker Todd Braverman (12-of-19 field goals) and punter Donnie Scott (42.6 yard avg.) back.

Depth Chart

OFFENSE (7)

WR	**88**	**Kevin Coffey (Jr., 1)**	80	Ahmad Hawkins (Jr., 2)
LT	**52**	**Josh Lawson (So., 1)**	64	Jared Woodson (So., 0)
LG	**77**	**Noel LaMontagne (Sr., 2)**	66	Butch Jefferson (Fr., 0)
C	**50**	**John St. Clair (Sr., 3)**	75	Dustin Keith (Jr., 0)
RG	56	Evan Routzahn (So., 1)	71	Brad Barnes (Jr., 0)
RT	71	Brad Barnes (Jr., 0)	74	Jermese Jones (Jr., 1)
TE	**86**	**Casey Crawford (Sr., 3)**	87	Billy Baber (Jr., 2)
WR	40	James Johnson (So., 0)	9	Demetrius Dotson (Jr., 1)
QB	17	Dan Ellis (Jr., 0)	15	David Rivers (Jr., 0)
FB	**25**	**Anthony Southern (Sr., 3)**	41	Patrick Washington (Jr., 2)
TB	**6**	**Thomas Jones (Sr., 3)**	23	Arlen Harris (Fr., 0)

DEFENSE (7)

LE	**95**	**Travis Griffith (Sr., 3)**	92	Antonio Mayfield (Fr., 0)
LT	**85**	**Maurice Anderson (Sr., 3)**	**98**	**Monsanto Pope (So., 1)**
RT	55	Kofi Bawuah (Jr., 1)	99	Johnny Shivers (Sr., 3)
RE	94	Darryl Sanders (So., 1)	91	Ljubomir Stamenich (So., 1)
LB	**33**	**Donny Green (Jr., 2)**	9	Shannon Taylor (Sr., 2)
LB	18	Yubrenal Isabelle (Jr., 1)	28	William Clark (So., 1)
LB	**32**	**Byron Thweatt (Jr., 2)**	10	Earl Sims (Jr., 1)
LC	5	Dwayne Stukes (Sr., 3)	4	Jason Small (Jr., 1)
RC	**21**	**Tim Spruill (Jr., 1)**	2	Rashad Roberson (Fr., 0)
S	20	Shernard Newby (Fr., 0)	38	Duane Fisher (Jr., 1)
S	**26**	**Antwan Harris (Sr., 3)**	49	Jermaine Lauzon (So., 0)

SPECIAL TEAMS

K	36	Todd Braverman (Jr., 1)
P	90	Donnie Scott (Sr., 1)
KR	8	Antwoine Womack (Jr., 1)
PR	6	Thomas Jones (Sr., 3)

(#) Indicates number of returning starters
***BOLD** indicates returning starters*
NUMBER after class indicates letters won

Head Coach: George Welsh **1998 Record (ACC): 9–3 (6–2)**
1999 Prediction: 3rd ACC **Scott Stadium (44,000)**

BYU Cougars

20

After an acceptable September, a nice October and a perfect November, BYU's losses just kept piling up in December and January.

In order, the Cougars lost: a fourth-quarter lead in the WAC championship game against Air Force; running back Ronney Jenkins and cornerback Heshimu Robertson to suspensions; the Liberty Bowl to Tulane; and offensive tackle John Tait to the NFL.

Steve Beyer

Rob Morris

Not a pleasant five weeks in Provo.

Amid the losses, the Cougars return the Mountain West's best defensive player and a quarterback who appears ready to carry the offense.

20 The Cougars lost 20 fumbles last season, four more than any other WAC team. BYU won the Pacific Division title in spite of a minus-8 turnover ratio.

Offensive coordinator Norm Chow credits Feterik with "major, major growth" during the spring, and this was after the left-hander had led the WAC in passing efficiency with 60-percent accuracy, 16 touchdowns and only six interceptions.

Chow wanted more strength, quickness and leadership from Feterik, and he responded, showing improvement in every category. Heavy reliance on a shotgun formation and a willingness to unload the ball sooner should help Feterik cut down on sacks.

Jenkins' departure takes away a major weapon from BYU's offense, meaning Feterik and his receivers will have to do more.

Junior Mahe spelled Jenkins nicely as a freshman, gaining 481 yards. His durability and consistency as an every-down back are the questions now. Donny Atuaia and Kalani Sitake seldom carried the ball as fullbacks, but they do provide a two-back option. Freshmen Lucas Staley and Fahu Tahi have excellent futures.

The receivers "really stepped it up" in the spring, by Chow's account, and will largely determine Feterik's ability to improve. Margin Hooks led the Cougars with 49 catches and joins Ben Horton, Jonathan Pittman, Michael Westbrook and Soren Halladay in the rotation. BYU was counting on Pittman for last season, but his enrollment was delayed.

Tevita Ofahengaue and Carlos Nuño were entertaining last season at tight end. That's another way of saying they dropped too many passes.

Aaron McCubbins and Shane Magalei are the front-runners at the tackle spots. Dustin Rykert and Isaac Herring have the talent to earn the jobs.

The inside three positions are more solid, with center Jimmy Richards and guards John Skiba and Matt Johnson. They must anchor the line and help the young tackles develop. BYU also will have to find success with draw plays out of the shotgun to slow down the pass rush.

The Cougars lost three of the four starting defensive linemen, but that's hardly a major problem. Byron Frisch can play multiple positions and tackles Chris Hoke and Hans Olsen were rotation regulars, as was end Setema Gali.

Frisch had 13 tackles for loss, illustrating his quickness. He will move around the line, particularly on passing downs to look for a mismatch.

Rob Morris considered following Tait into the NFL after his junior season, but he will become a first-round draft choice soon enough. He covers the whole field, making 16 tackles for loss. Morris is the team leader and spokesman who kept the Cougars together after a 2–3 start. His intensity is unmatched.

Michigan transfer Jeff Holtry established himself as an outside linebacker; Justin Ena and Josh Lowe will share the other position.

BYU went from 10th to first in the WAC in total defense mainly because of cornerbacks Brian Gray and Robertson. Their coverage ability allows Schmidt a more aggressive approach. The Cougars hope that Robertson is allowed to return to school in August and that Gray resolves some academic concerns. If not, Rob Warcup and Doug Henstrom must step up. Juco Mike Lafitte could be a luxury.

BYU's safety positions are interchangeable. Senior Tyler Nelson is set, with junior college transfer Jared Lee and Colorado transfer Elan Edwards competing for the other spot.

Owen Pochman made 20-of-27 field goals and broke his brother's school record for consecutive extra points. Juco Mike Clark is the probable punter.

Mahe will return kicks, but if Jaron Dabney completes junior college requirements and comes back to BYU, the Cougars will have a former WAC Freshman of the Year who's exciting on kickoff and punt returns.

Depth Chart

OFFENSE (8)

WR	**14 Margin Hooks (Jr., 2)**	1 Michael Westbrook (So., 1)
LT	69 Aaron McCubbins (So., 1)	73 Isaac Herring (Fr., 0)
LG	**65 John Skiba (Sr., 1)**	67 Alex Jensen (Fr., 0)
C	**66 Jimmy Richards (Jr., 2)**	68 Jason Scukanec (So., 1)
RG	**62 Matt Johnson (Sr., 1)**	61 Kam Valgardson (Jr., 2)
RT	77 Shane Magalei (Jr., 2)	79 Dustin Rykert (Fr., 0)
TE	**96 Carlos Nuño (Sr., 2)**	91 Tevita Ofahengaue (Jr., 2)
QB	**7 Kevin Feterik (Sr., 3)**	22 Brandon Doman (So., 1)
FB	**34 Kalani Sitake (Jr., 2)**	35 Donny Atuaia (Sr., 3)
HB	20 Junior Mahe (So., 1)	8 Andrew Ord (Fr., 0)
WR	**88 Ben Horton (Jr., 2)**	2 Jonathan Pittman (Jr., 0)

DEFENSE (4)

LE	99 Setema Gali (Jr., 2)	83 Brett Keisel (So., 1)
LT	72 Hans Olsen (Jr., 2)	89 Andrew Nash (Sr., 3)
RT	58 Chris Hoke (Jr., 2)	98 Chris Watkins (Fr., 0)
RE	**93 Byron Frisch (Sr., 3)**	92 Ryan Denney (So., 1)
LB	47 Justin Ena (So., 1)	51 Josh Lowe (Jr., 2)
LB	**44 Rob Morris (Sr., 3)**	43 Stan Moleni (So., 1)
LB	45 Jeff Holtry (Jr., 0)	46 Chris Stevens (Fr., 0)
LC	**3 Brian Gray (Sr., 1)**	6 Kevon Morton (Jr., 2)
RC	**28 Rob Warcup (Sr., 1)**	36 Doug Henstrom (Sr., 3)
SS	13 Tyler Nelson (Sr., 3)	22 Tyson Smith (Jr., 0)
FS	25 Elan Edwards (So., 0)	10 Jared Lee (Jr., 0)

SPECIAL TEAMS

K	27 Owen Pochman (Jr., 2)
KR	20 Junior Mahe (So., 1)
P	Mike Clark (Jr., 0)
PR	20 Junior Mahe (So., 1)

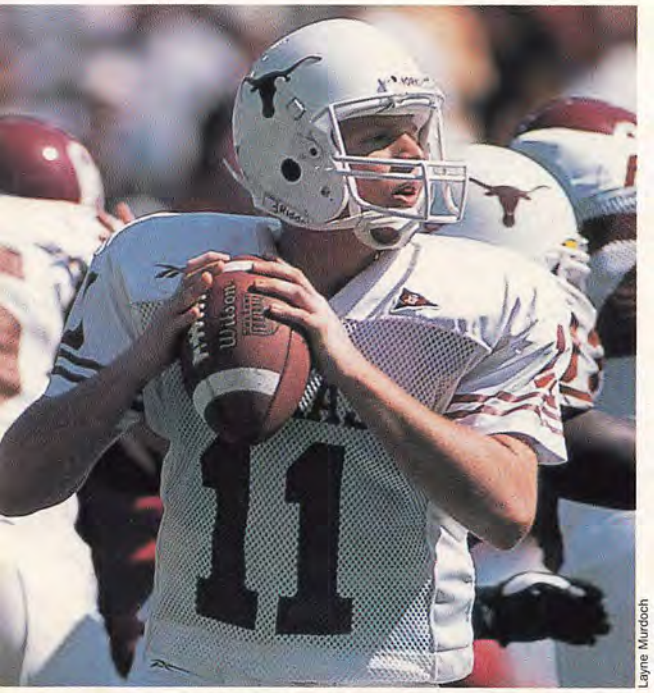
(#) Indicates number of returning starters
***BOLD** indicates returning starters*
NUMBER after class indicates letters won

Head Coach: LaVell Edwards — **1998 Record (WAC): 9–5 (7–1)**
1999 Prediction: 1st MWC — **Cougar Stadium (65,000)**

Texas Longhorns

21

Victories over Nebraska and archrivals Oklahoma and Texas A&M. The Heisman Trophy winner. The first New Year's Day bowl victory since 1981. The nation's No. 1 recruiting class. All things considered, Mack Brown's first full year at Texas was so exciting that many Longhorn fans proclaimed: "We're back!" But the status report on the majority of stars who generated that excitement is: "They're gone." The Longhorns may have a defense that can challenge for the Big 12 title, but a depleted offense could keep UT outside the BCS.



Layne Murdoch

Major Applewhite

72% How much offense Texas loses with the departure of Ricky Williams, Wane McGarity and Derek Lewis. They accounted for 3,709 of Texas' 5,177 total yards.

A key area of concern entering last year, quarterback may be the offensive strength in 1999. Major Applewhite began last season as a wide-eyed redshirt freshman, but ended the year like a steely-eyed, seasoned veteran. In addition to passing for 2,453 yards and 18 touchdowns, Applewhite played heroic roles in the wins over Nebraska and A&M.

"For him to win nine games and accomplish what he did last year as a redshirt freshman was really phenomenal," Brown says.

Incoming freshmen Chris Simms (the nation's No. 1 prep quarterback prospect) and Adam Hall will compete for the backup spot.

Brown says it's useless to attempt to "replace" Heisman winner Ricky Williams. The most likely candidates to fill in are junior Hodges Mitchell (111 rushing yards last year) and redshirt freshman Victor Ike. Both are talented, shifty runners with excellent speed, but the Texas running game won't be the same without Williams.

The news is better at fullback, where Ricky Brown returns for his senior season. Although Brown carried just 10 times for 55 yards last year, he is a proven, productive blocker.

At wideout, Kwame Cavil appears to be an emerging star. Cavil (6'2", 200) is big and dangerous. Ryan Nunez is a dependable possession receiver, and Jamel Thompson has been impressive at times. At tight end, Texas also must replace another proven performer, Derek Lewis, leaving Chad Irwin and Chris Smith in a battle for the starting role. Neither has a collegiate reception.

Texas' skill positions have been depleted, but the offensive line has been ravaged. Only left guard Roger Roesler returns for a unit that paved the way for Williams to become the leading rusher in Division I history. The most talented of the replacements may be massive left tackle Leonard Davis, who has spent time on both sides of the ball. Right guard Antwan Kirk-Hughes has impressive credentials, but — like right tackles Cory Quye and Mike Williams and center Marcel Blanchard — little experience.

Unlike the offensive front, the defensive line has few concerns. Left end Aaron Humphrey is a leader on and off the field, producing a team-high 10 sacks in 1998. And tackles Casey Hampton and Cedric Woodard (116 combined tackles and 27 for losses last year) may form the best interior line combination in the Big 12.

The Longhorns' only vulnerable spot may be at right end, where Jermain Anderson and J.J. Kelly are locked in a battle. Neither is proven.

The days of plodding linebackers at Texas are apparently over. If speed kills, the Longhorn linebackers could be lethal.

The trio of strong-side linebacker Tyrone Jones, middle linebacker De'Andre Lewis and weak-side linebacker Marcus Wilkins is young but extremely athletic.

Texas should also get a lift this fall from two players, Anthony Hicks (knee injury) and Aaron Babino (academic ineligibility), who missed spring practice.

The Longhorn safeties, Quentin Jammer and Donald McCowen, could be exceptional. But the cornerbacks are still questionable. "We stopped the run really well last year, but we got burned against the pass," Brown says.

Jammer and McCowen have been steadily improving, combining to break up 13 passes and record 128 tackles last year. The situation at cornerback is less certain. Joe Walker, Chris Butcher, Terrol Dillon, Ervis Hill and Ahmad Brooks must step it up or they could lose playing time to some talented incoming freshmen.

Kicker Kris Stockton returns after a solid 1998 season in which he connected on 16-of-21 field goals, including game-winners against Oklahoma State and A&M. Ryan Long gave the Horns a lift by averaging 43.5 yards per punt. Mitchell, Ike and Montrell Flowers form a solid return trio.

Depth Chart

OFFENSE (4)

SE	22	Ryan Nunez (Sr., 1)	2	Montrell Flowers (So., 1)
LT	70	Leonard Davis (Jr., 2)	74	Joe Hubbard (Jr., 0)
LG	**72**	**Roger Roesler (Sr., 3)**	69	Corey Bradford (So., 0)
C	78	Marcel Blanchard (Jr., 1)	62	Matt Anderson (So., 1)
RG	76	Antwan Kirk-Hughes (So., 1)	62	Matt Anderson (So., 1)
RT	66	Cory Quye (Jr., 1)	63	Mike Williams (So., 1)
TE	80	Chad Irwin (So., 1)	87	Chris Smith (Sr., 3)
FL	**9**	**Kwame Cavil (Jr., 2)**	12	Jamel Thompson (Jr., 2)
QB	**11**	**Major Applewhite (So., 1)**		Chris Simms (Fr., 0)
FB	**44**	**Ricky Brown (Sr., 3)**	37	Chris Robertson (So., 1)
TB	3	Hodges Mitchell (Jr., 2)	28	Victor Ike (Fr., 0)

DEFENSE (7)

LE	**49**	**Aaron Humphrey (Sr., 3)**	81	Mike Jones (So., 0)
LT	**64**	**Casey Hampton (Jr., 2)**	90	Aaron Colvin (So., 0)
RT	**50**	**Cedric Woodard (Sr., 3)**	73	Shaun Rogers (Jr., 2)
RE	89	Jermain Anderson (So., 1)	84	J.J. Kelly (Jr., 2)
LB	39	Tyrone Jones (So., 0)	42	Everick Rawls (So., 0)
LB	**4**	**De'Andre Lewis (So., 1)**	40	Josh Spoerl (Jr., 0)
LB	56	Marcus Wilkins (So., 1)	41	Jamal Joyner (Fr., 0)
LC	1	Ervis Hill (So., 1)	5	Ahmad Brooks (So., 0)
RC	**17**	**Joe Walker (Jr., 2)**	27	Chris Butcher (Sr., 0)
SS	**7**	**Donald McCowen (Jr., 2)**	23	Lee Jackson (So., 1)
FS	**6**	**Quentin Jammer (Jr., 2)**	24	Greg Brown (Jr., 1)

SPECIAL TEAMS

K	13	Kris Stockton (Jr., 2)
P	33	Ryan Long (Sr., 1)
KR	3	Hodges Mitchell (Jr., 2)
PR	3	Hodges Mitchell (Jr., 2)

(#) Indicates number of returning starters
***BOLD** indicates returning starters*
NUMBER after class indicates letters won

Head Coach: Mack Brown — 1998 Record (Big 12): 9–3 (6–2)
1999 Prediction: 2nd Big 12 South — Jamail Field (79,437)

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UCLA Bruins

22

Although UCLA returns 14 starters, the one that matters most is missing. Quarterback Cade McNown, after four often exhilarating seasons, is no longer around to be the Bruins' savior.

Despite the experience UCLA returns this season on both offense and defense, there is no way to discount the way McNown single-handedly won games for the Bruins. Remember UCLA's miracle win over Oregon State last year?

Peter Brouillet

Danny Farmer

> 4-3 In an attempt to turn their porous defense around, the Bruins are switching from a 3–4 to a 4–3 alignment under new defensive coordinator Bob Field.

"It seems like Cade was our starting quarterback forever," UCLA coach Bob Toledo says, "but this is a new era."

Will it be a successful one?

Junior Drew Bennett served as McNown's backup, but the competition for starter is expected to boil down to redshirt freshman Cory Paus and true freshman J.P. Losman, who graduated high school early and participated in spring practice.

Paus is considered the swifter quarterback and more capable of running the option, while Losman has the stronger arm.

With a strong, experienced group of runners, UCLA will rely on its ground attack to help alleviate the pressure on the quarterbacks. Sophomore DeShaun Foster lived up to his high school hype and led the Bruins in rushing (673 yards) despite missing most of three games. Junior Jermaine Lewis is a reliable if unspectacular workhorse who has overcome his small size (5'7", 180). Senior Keith Brown will play when Foster and Lewis get tired. Durell Price returns at fullback after starting 10 games.

Senior Danny Farmer is one of the top wide receivers in the conference, so the problem will be finding a quarterback to get him the ball. Farmer led the Pac-10 with an average of 22 yards per reception. Junior Brian Poli-Dixon started 10 games, but was inconsistent and had some crucial drops. The tight end position is as open as quarterback, with true freshman Mike Seidman the inside candidate to start.

UCLA lost a lot along the front, notably Outland Trophy winner Kris Farris and All-Pac-10 guard Andy Meyers.

But the redshirt freshmen are considered some of the best young linemen in the conference. Mike Saffer is slated to start at right guard, while Blake Worley should earn the left tackle spot. Junior Brian Polak started 12 games at right tackle and has been better than adequate. Junior Oscar Cabrera started seven games at left guard and will be considered the group's leader. Center will be a possible weak spot, with sophomore Troy Danoff trying to replace Shawn Stuart.

The line was the Swiss Cheese portion of the defense a year ago. Junior Kenyon Coleman had a disappointing sophomore season after showing promise as a freshman. Tight end Saia Makakaufaki has been converted to defense and will challenge for a starting end spot.

Sophomores Ken Kocher and Anthony Fletcher should start at tackle. Another position change has sophomore Santi Hall moving up from linebacker to end, perhaps taking Pete Holland's spot, as the Bruins adjust to a new 4–3 defense. It will also be interesting to see if the freshman Ball twins — David and Mat — make an impact right out of high school.

Sophomore Ryan Nece (the son of Ronnie Lott) is the top returnee at linebacker. He was the Bruins' second-leading tackler last season.

Sophomore Robert Thomas was considered the No. 1 linebacker in the country two years ago, but is still fighting junior Tony White for the middle linebacker spot. The other outside position could be a worrisome area. Senior Ali Abdul-Azziz, junior Billy Pieper and sophomore Ed Stansbury will try to win a starting spot, but none has much experience.

Senior Jason Bell will start at cornerback, with senior Ryan Roques and junior Marques Anderson fighting for the opposite position.

Sophomore Jason Stephens has to replace the departing Larry Atkins at free safety, after starting seven games at strong safety. With Stephens moving, the Bruins face another dilemma at strong safety, but freshman Audie Attar is the front-runner to take over.

Chris Sailer handled the punting, placekicking and kickoff duties. His departure leaves a gaping hole. Freshman Nathan Fikse should be the new kicker. But there is a big question mark regarding the punting duties. Roques has established himself as the punt and kick returner.

Depth Chart

OFFENSE (6)

SE	82	**Brian Poli-Dixon (Jr.,2)**	3	Freddie Mitchell (So.,1)
LT	63	Blake Worley (Fr., 0)	72	Josh Webb (Jr., 2)
LG	59	**Oscar Cabrera (Jr., 2)**	68	Matt Phelan (Sr., 2)
C	50	Troy Danoff (So., 1)	73	Tony Ippolito (Jr., 1)
RG	65	Mike Saffer (Fr., 0)	74	James Ghezzi (Sr., 1)
RT	60	**Brian Polak (Jr., 2)**	70	Scott Wiegand (Fr., 0)
TE		Mike Seidman (Fr., 0)	89	Gabe Crecion (Jr., 2)
QB	10	Cory Paus (Fr., 0)	11	Drew Bennett (Jr., 2)
FB	9	**Durell Price (Sr., 3)**	44	Mark Verti (Sr., 3)
TB	26	DeShaun Foster (So., 1)	23	**Jermaine Lewis (Jr., 2)**
FL	87	**Danny Farmer (Sr., 3)**	83	Brad Melsby (Sr., 3)

DEFENSE (8)

DE	99	**Kenyon Coleman (Jr., 2)**	75	**Pete Holland (Sr., 3)**
DT	97	Ken Kocher (So., 1)	64	Steve Morgan (Fr., 0)
DT	96	Anthony Fletcher (So., 1)	98	Sean Phillips (Fr., 0)
DE	95	**Santi Hall (So., 1)**	56	Travor Turner (Sr., 3)
LB	48	Ali Abdul-Azziz (Sr., 2)	90	Billy Pieper (Jr., 1)
LB	51	**Tony White (Jr., 2)**	54	Robert Thomas (So., 1)
LB	47	**Ryan Nece (So., 1)**	15	Ed Stansbury (So., 1)
CB	33	Ryan Roques (Sr., 3)	7	**Marques Anderson (Jr., 2)**
CB	12	**Jason Bell (Sr., 3)**		Ricky Manning (Fr., 0)
SS	2	Audie Attar (Fr., 0)	6	Eric Whitfield (Sr., 3)
FS	4	**Jason Stephens (So., 1)**		DaShaun McCullough (Fr., 0)

SPECIAL TEAMS

K		Nathan Fikse (Fr., 0)
P		Nathan Fikse (Fr., 0)
KR	33	Ryan Roques (Sr., 3)
PR	33	Ryan Roques (Sr., 3)

(#) Indicates number of returning starters
***BOLD** indicates returning starters*
NUMBER after class indicates letters won

Head Coach: Bob Toledo — **1998 Record (Pac-10): 10–2 (8–0)**
1999 Prediction: 3rd Pac-10 — **Rose Bowl (94,000)**

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Kansas State Wildcats

23

Heisman Trophy runner-up Michael Bishop is gone, along with most of an offense that led the nation in scoring.

Four assistants, including the defensive coordinator, also are gone. But don't expect the Wildcats to slide too much.

Jonathan Beasley would have been the No.2 signal-caller had he not been redshirted to preserve a season's eligibility. Beasley has the strongest throwing arm on the team as well as the size to hold up physically. Still, offensive coordinator Ron Hudson has his work cut out; so much of what was accomplished offensively the last two seasons depended on Bishop's considerable skills.

David Preston

Jarrod Cooper

Senior Adam Helm, a walk-on, saw limited action as Bishop's backup. Freshman Ell Roberson III is the quarterback of the future.

> **77** The number of victories coach Bill Snyder has earned in 10 seasons. It's also the number of victories Kansas State managed from 1959 to 1989, the season he arrived.

David Allen, the nation's best punt returner, gets first crack at running back. He led Wildcat rushers in the Alamo Bowl.

Frank Murphy, the leading returning rusher, also is a big-play back, though he had some problems with fumbles. He's explosive, with a 42-inch vertical jump. And he has exceptional speed with a team-record 4.22 in the 40. He also can catch the ball and was used on occasion in the slot.

Fullback Johnno Lazetich sat out after transferring from Oregon State where he played as a redshirt freshman.

Aaron Lockett was second on the team in receptions, with 44 for 928 yards and six touchdowns. He had 100 or more receiving yards in five games, including three in a row.

Lockett has sprinter's speed and broke the school record with his 21.1 yards-per-catch average.

There are no experienced receivers to alleviate the pressure on Lockett. Brandon Clark has one catch. Juco George Williams and freshmen LaRoy Bias and Derrick Evans will get a good look. Experience also is in short supply at tight end.

The Wildcats ranked 12th nationally in rushing offense, averaging 224.9 yards per game behind a strong interior line. The line won't be as dominant with only two starters returning: center Randall Cummins and tackle Milford Stephenson.

Thomas Barnett started the final five games at right tackle, leaving line coach Paul Dunn to find replacements at guard, where Ian Moses, Ryan Cummings and Andy Eby are the top candidates.

Damion McIntosh, a second-team all-conference defensive tackle, could be used for additional muscle at offensive tackle, as he was in four games last season.

McIntosh and end Darren Howard are the returning starters from a front four that helped the Wildcats rank first in the Big 12 in rushing defense.

Howard has the size and strength to play inside, but he's most effective at end, where he uses his quickness to harass passers. His 10.5 sacks led the conference. McIntosh had 10 tackles for loss.

DeVane Robinson and Monty Beisel both were in the regular rotation, so starting shouldn't be a difficult transition.

Mark Simoneau is the only returnee from a linebacking corps rated among the nation's best. A first-team all-Big 12 selection considered the best athlete on the team, he led the Wildcats with 95 tackles.

Simoneau contributed to the Big 12's second-most opportunistic defense, intercepting two passes and recovering two fumbles. He's joined at linebacker by Travis Litton, Ben Leber and Turelle Williams, all of whom have started at least once.

Kansas State was ninth nationally in pass efficiency defense with a secondary that returns intact, led by safeties Lamar Chapman and Jarrod Cooper. Both were first-team all-Big 12. Chapman has the speed to play cornerback. Cooper is solid in run support. He had 86 tackles, including 13 for losses. He broke up eight passes and stole three fumbles.

The cornerbacks Dyshod Carter, with 21 consecutive starts, and Jerametrius Butler broke up 18 passes between them and had two interceptions apiece. This group is as good as any in the Big 12, if not the country.

Jamie Rheem succeeds two-time All-America placekicker Martin Gramatica. Rheem proved himself as a freshman in 1996 going 43-for-43 on extra-points and five-of-eight on field goals, including a 51-yarder.

The explosive Allen led the nation in punt returns, returning four punts for touchdowns to tie an NCAA record. The only uncertainty on special teams is at punter.

Depth Chart

OFFENSE (3)

WR	22	**Aaron Lockett (So., 1)**	5	Quincy Morgan (Jr., 0)
LT	74	**Milford Stephenson (Jr., 2)**	72	Chris Bailes (Fr., 0)
LG	66	Ian Moses (Sr.,2)	63	Ryan Cummings (Jr., 0)
C	58	**Randall Cummins (Jr., 1)**	59	Dan Divilbiss (So., 0)
RG	64	Andy Eby (So., 0)	78	Steve Washington (Fr., 0)
RT	65	Thomas Barnett (So., 1)	70	John Robertson (So., 0)
TE	85	Shad Meier (Jr., 2)	81	Nick Warren (So., 1)
QB	18	Jonathan Beasley (Jr., 2)	19	Adam Helm (Sr., 1)
FB	37	Johnno Lazetich (Jr., 0)	31	Ryan Payne (Sr., 1)
RB	32	David Allen (Jr., 2)	3	Frank Murphy (Sr., 1)
WR	45	Brandon Clark (So., 1)	89	Martez Wesley (Jr., 1)

DEFENSE (7)

DE	44	Monty Beisel (Jr., 2)	36	Chris Johnson (Jr., 2)
DT	55	DeVane Robinson (So., 1)	76	Eric Everley (So., 0)
DT	77	**Damion McIntosh (Sr., 3)**	96	Nilijah McCoy (Sr., 0)
DE	49	**Darren Howard (Sr., 3)**	97	Melvin Williams (Fr., 0)
LB	43	Travis Litton (Sr., 2)	57	Da'Von Brame (Jr., 0)
LB	52	Ben Leber (So., 1)	41	Turelle Williams (Jr., 3)
LB	42	**Mark Simoneau (Sr., 3)**	54	Jason Kazar (Jr., 1)
CB	23	**Jerametrius Butler (So., 1)**	6	Adrian Beard (Jr., 1)
CB	35	**Dyshod Carter (Jr., 2)**	4	Terence Newman (Fr., 0)
SS	40	**Jarrod Cooper (Jr., 2)**	14	Milton Proctor (So., 1)
FS	1	**Lamar Chapman (Sr., 3)**	38	Jon McGraw (So., 1)

SPECIAL TEAMS

K	15	Jamie Rheem (Jr., 2)
P	10	Travis Brown (Fr., 0)
KR	32	David Allen (Jr., 2)
PR	32	David Allen (Jr., 2)

(#) Indicates number of returning starters
***BOLD** indicates returning starters*
NUMBER after class indicates letters won

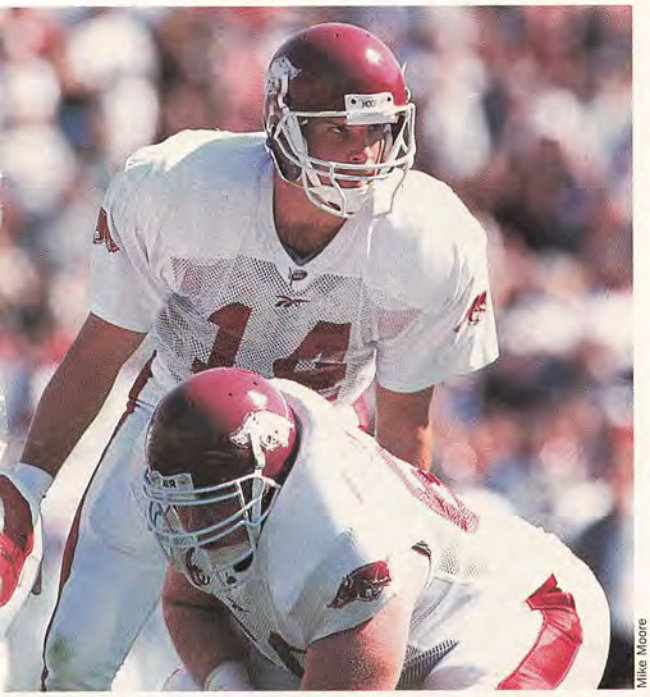
Head Coach: Bill Snyder — 1998 Record (Big 12): 11–2 (8–0)
1999 Prediction: 3rd Big 12 North — KSU Stadium (50,000)

Arkansas Razorbacks

24

Athletic director Frank Broyles couldn't move quickly enough to raise coach Houston Nutt's salary after last season's 9–3 turnaround. The only thing that jumped more quickly were expectations for this year.

The team features too many returning heroes not to be considered one of the favorites in the SEC West. Six offensive starters return, including players who scored 40 of the team's 48 touchdowns (counting the Citrus Bowl loss to Michigan). Six defensive starters return, and the new starters aren't rookies after playing extensively as backups.



Mike Moore

Clint Stoerner

95.5 The Hogs' average yards rushing allowed per game, which ranked sixth among the 112 NCAA Division I-A teams.

Nutt's major concern will be blocking for the veteran skill players like senior quarterback Clint Stoerner.

If Stoerner picks up where he left off, he will break the school's career passing record a few weeks before the leaves turn in Fayetteville. Another 654 yards will push him past Barry Lunney's 5,782 yards. Stoerner does everything coaches want: He throws short with touch and deep with accuracy, reads coverages before the snap and changes plays accordingly, scrambles and takes charge in the huddle.

Senior Chrys Chukwuma will be the primary running threat after splitting time the last three seasons. Chukwuma rarely goes down on first contact, and he's a long-striding breakaway threat who averages 5.1 yards per carry. *Parade* All-American Cedric Cobbs already possesses a college-level body and speed and should contribute as a freshman.

Coaches intend to involve the fullback more in the passing game, which means more action for junior Eric Branch and senior Nathan Norman. Senior Marvin Caston is the best blocker.

Players who accounted for all but 73 of the team's 2,668 receiving yards are back. Senior Anthony Lucas had the SEC's best yards-per-catch average by far (23.3) and led Hogs' receivers with 1,004 yards, while senior Michael Williams led in receptions, 44 to Lucas' 43. Tight end Joe Dean Davenport's role should increase because he proved he could catch.

On the offensive line, the only force keeping this from being a complete rebuilding job and cause for grave concern is senior right tackle Bobby Williams, a third-year starter. The other projected starters are sophomore Gary Hobbs at left tackle, sophomore Shannon Money and junior college transfer John Geitner at the guards and sophomore center Kenny Sandlin.

This defensive line has proven to be one of the SEC's most physical the last few years. Junior Randy Garner is a third-year starter at "stud end," whose strength is run stopping. Sophomore Carlos Hall is the rush end and the team's best overall athlete. D.J. Cooper has started just a few games at tackle but has played regularly every year using his strength and a variety of moves to work free from blockers.

Sophomores Chris Brooks and Curt Davis have an edge in experience at nose-guard. Redshirt freshmen Raymond House, Ezekiel Davis, Jermaine Brooks and Jermyne Williamson were the strength of the 1998 recruiting class and will see playing time up front.

Perhaps the most underrated part of Arkansas' defense, which ranked 17th nationally, was the four-man rotation at the two linebacker positions, and three of the four are back: seniors J.J. Jones and Jamel Harris and junior Quenton Caver. .

Coaches get more speed on the field by dropping a third linebacker and using what amounts to five defensive backs. That fifth DB is designated "bandit," and senior Jeromy Flowers returns there after notching three interceptions and nine tackles for loss in '98.

All-SEC rover Zac Painter is gone and coaches are trying to find a replacement among D'Andre Berry, Ontraia Moss, Tony Lockhart and converted tailback Rod Stinson.

Senior Kenoy Kennedy returns at free safety, where he has delivered enough jarring hits to fill a highlight tape. Teams throw away from senior cornerback David Barrett, who has cover speed and instincts. Coaches are projecting fast, aggressive sophomore Harold Harris in the other corner.

Senior placekicker Tony Dodson and a mob of walk-ons were competing for the position in the spring. The punting job remains open to several challengers, because senior Chris Akin has been erratic.

Depth Chart

OFFENSE (6)

SE	**80 Anthony Lucas (Sr., 3)**	39 Hubert Loudermilk (Sr., 3)
LT	76 Gary Hobbs (So., 1)	70 Curtis Sanders (Sr., 1)
LG	61 Shannon Money (So., 1)	68 Jeremiah Washburn (Sr., 2)
C	57 Kenny Sandlin (So., 1)	58 Josh Melton (Fr., 0)
RG	John Geitner (Jr., 0)	73 Brett Shockley (Jr., 0)
RT	**69 Bobby Williams (Sr., 3)**	Jason Waits (Fr., 0)
TE	**85 Joe Dean Davenport (Sr., 3)**	95 Marcellus Poydras (Fr., 0)
FL	**84 Michael Williams (Sr., 3)**	81 Emanuel Smith (Sr., 3)
QB	**14 Clint Stoerner (Sr., 3)**	11 Robby Hampton (Fr., 0)
FB	7 Eric Branch (Jr., 2)	47 Nathan Norman (Sr., 3)
TB	**22 Chrys Chukwuma (Sr., 3)**	Cedric Cobbs (Fr., 0)

DEFENSE (6)

E	**1 Randy Garner (Jr., 2)**	65 Sacha Lancaster (So., 1)
T	99 D.J. Cooper (Sr., 3)	48 Jermaine Brooks (Fr., 0)
NG	92 Chris Brooks (So., 1)	98 Ezekiel Davis (Fr., 0)
E	55 Carlos Hall (So., 1)	63 Raymond House (Fr., 0)
LB	**49 J.J. Jones (Sr., 3)**	38 Derrick Johnson (So., 1)
LB	**45 Jamel Harris (Sr., 3)**	53 Quenton Caver (Jr., 2)
B	**30 Jeromy Flowers (Sr., 3)**	32 Jeremiah Harper (Jr., 2)
R	5 Ontraia Moss (Sr., 3)	31 D'Andre Berry (So., 1)
FC	**18 David Barrett (Sr., 3)**	Corey Harris (Jr., 0)
BC	2 Harold Harris (So., 1)	Corey Harris (Jr., 0)
FS	**29 Kenoy Kennedy (Sr., 3)**	Ken Hamlin (Fr., 0)

SPECIAL TEAMS

K	17 Tony Dodson (Sr., 0)
P	8 Chris Akin (Sr., 1)
KR	39 Hubert Loudermilk (Sr., 3)
PR	24 Rossi Morreale (Sr., 2)

(#) Indicates number of returning starters
***BOLD** indicates returning starters*
NUMBER after class indicates letters won

Head Coach: Houston Nutt **1998 Record (SEC West): 9–3 (6–2)**
1999 Prediction: 2nd SEC West **Razorback Stadium (49,800)**

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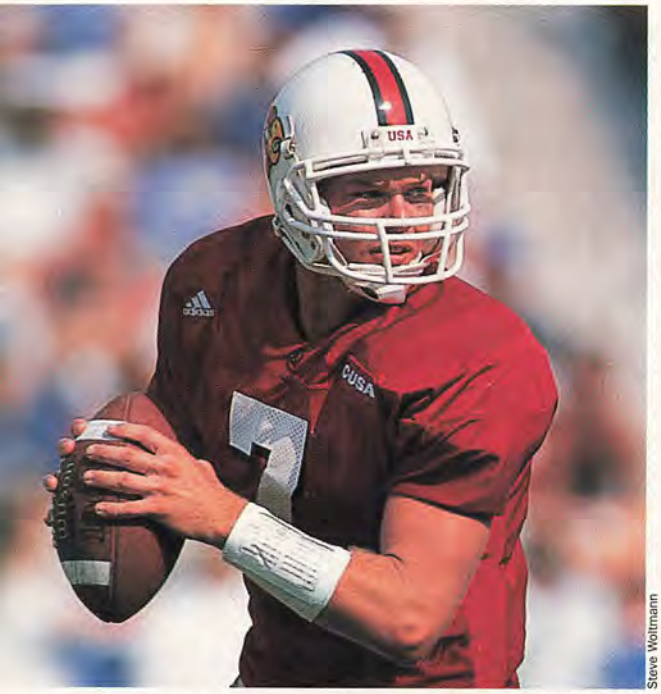
Louisville Cardinals

25

In coach John L. Smith's first year, Louisville achieved the biggest turnaround in Division I-A, improving from 1–10 in 1997, to 7–5 overall. The Cardinals also soared from 0–6 to 4–2 in Conference USA competition.

The Louisville defense returns en masse, with 10 starters back, but last year's unit was less than intimidating.



Steve Woltmann

Chris Redman

Led by Heisman Trophy candidate Chris Redman at quarterback, the Cardinals devoured yardage, leading the nation in total offense with 559.6 yards per game and topped 40 points in scoring average.

559.6 Number of total offensive yards per game gobbled up by the Cardinals in 1998, the most of any team in Division I-A.

There are seven full-time starters back from that potent offense, but a new coordinator takes charge. Scott Linehan takes over the offense. He played and coached under Smith at Idaho, so the alterations in Louisville's mode of attack should be minimal.

In 1998, Redman completed 309-of-473 passes (65.3 percent) for 4,042 yards and 29 scores. He surpassed 300 yards passing in nine games, with 592 yards — the ninth-highest single-game total in Division I-A history — and six scoring tosses against East Carolina. He owns every school passing record in the book. Mike Watkins is Redman's backup.

Leroy Collins' decision to forego his senior season in favor of the NFL draft was a blow. Frank Moreau, the starter in 1997 who relinquished his job to Collins for a year, has reclaimed the running back position. Moreau averaged 7.1 yards per carry as a backup in '98. Redshirt freshman Henry Miller moved from defense to running back in the spring, but Moreau will feel the most heat from Eric Lockhart, a juco All-American due to arrive in the fall. Moreau and Lockhart both are 225-230-pound power runners.

Four Cardinals hit the 50-catch plateau last fall. Arnold Jackson rewrote Louisville's single-season receiving record book with 90 catches for 1,165 yards, and contributed 10 touchdowns. Jackson, who can break a game open with his speed and elusiveness, added the tough, over-the-middle catch to his résumé in '98.

Lavell Boyd and Charles Sheffield also return at wideout after combining for 111 catches. Zek Parker, whose 18.7-yards per catch was a team high, and juco All-American Anthony Branch fill out a strong five-man rotation.

For the second year in a row, Ibn Green led the nation's tight ends in catches, receiving yards and touchdowns. He should become Louisville's all-time leader in all three categories by midseason.

Mark Grivna and Anthony Byrd will start at the tackles for a third straight season. Grivna is a space-eater on the strong side. Josh Richardson, who started seven games before exiting with a knee injury, and Aaron Dardzinski will line up at guard. Jason Padget enrolled from junior college in time to participate in spring drills and nailed down the center job.

Mike Gantous, a second-team All-C-USA defensive tackle, plugs the middle of the defense. Derrick Kennedy, who moved inside from end last year to utilize his bulk, also returns. Juco tackles Donovan Arp and Kevin Kos have solidified depth.

Otis Floyd, a quick though smallish end, registered seven tackles for loss, but he and fellow end Matt Sexton combined for just four sacks. Fast, athletic freshmen ends Michael Josiah and Devon Thomas could be the answer to the pass rush deficiencies.

Bud Herring and Rashad Harris, both former C-USA All-Freshman selections, return at linebacker after combining for 233 tackles, including 15 for loss. Herring also excels in pass coverage. Craig Gotcher and Chip Mattingly saw lots of action as backups, and Gotcher should become a starter. Xavier Burrell, last year's starting free safety, is now stationed behind Herring at linebacker.

Antonio Roundtree returns at cornerback after an all-conference performance. He topped C-USA with 15 pass breakups and contributed a pair of picks. His speed and cover skills keep him step-for-step with C-USA's best wideouts. Rashad Holman matched Roundtree's two picks and added 12 pass breakups.

Courtney Dinkins moves from strong to free safety. Dinkins boasts uncanny instincts and is as effective against the run as he is against the pass. Dinkins' move makes room for hard-hitting Brian Gaines at strong safety.

Placekicker Jon Hilbert was perfect (4-of-4) on field goals from 40 yards and in. He also boomed a third of his kickoffs for touchbacks. Chris Sivori will be the punter. Jackson and Parker will handle returns.

Depth Chart

OFFENSE (7)

WR	10	**Arnold Jackson (Sr., 2)**	87	Justin Thomas (So., 1)
LT	65	**Anthony Byrd (Sr., 3)**	76	Rob Eble (So., 1)
LG	61	Aaron Dardzinski (So., 0)	66	Reeve Staley (So., 0)
C	54	Jason Padget (Jr., 0)	64	Antoine Sims (Fr., 0)
RG	62	**Josh Richardson (Sr., 2)**	77	Joe O'Shaughnessy (Jr., 2)
RT	71	**Mark Grivna (Sr., 2)**	75	Geoff McBarnette (Sr., 1)
TE	6	**Ibn Green (Sr., 3)**	81	Jason Jones (Sr., 1)
QB	7	**Chris Redman (Sr., 3)**	11	Mike Watkins (Jr., 2)
RB	32	Frank Moreau (Sr., 3)	44	Henry Miller (Fr., 0)
WR	8	Charles Sheffield (Sr., 3)	80	Zek Parker (Jr., 1)
WR	12	**Lavell Boyd (Sr., 2)**	86	Brian McDonald (Sr., 1)

DEFENSE (10)

DE	59	**Matt Sexton (Jr., 1)**	92	Michael Josiah (Fr., 0)
DT	96	**Derrick Kennedy (Sr., 3)**	79	Donovan Arp (Jr., 0)
DT	74	**Mike Gantous (Sr., 3)**	97	Kevin Kos (Jr., 0)
DE	17	**Otis Floyd (Sr., 3)**	95	Devon Thomas (Fr., 0)
LB	20	**Bud Herring (Jr., 2)**	41	**Xavier Burrell (Jr., 2)**
LB	52	**Rashad Harris (Jr., 2)**	82	Chip Mattingly (So., 1)
LB	50	Craig Gotcher (Jr., 1)	53	Jeremy Collins (Fr., 0)
CB	3	**Antonio Roundtree (Jr., 2)**	21	Mike White (Jr., 0)
CB	2	**Rashad Holman (Jr., 2)**	46	Zach Butler (Sr., 2)
SS	4	Brian Gaines (So., 1)	26	Corey Wallace (Jr., 0)
FS	19	**Courtney Dinkins (Sr., 3)**	26	Jeremy Porter (Fr., 0)

SPECIAL TEAMS

K	23	Jon Hilbert (Sr., 2)
P		Chris Sivori (Fr., 0)
KR	80	Zek Parker (Jr., 1)
PR	10	Arnold Jackson (Sr., 2)

(#) Indicates number of returning starters
***BOLD** indicates returning starters*
NUMBER after class indicates letters won

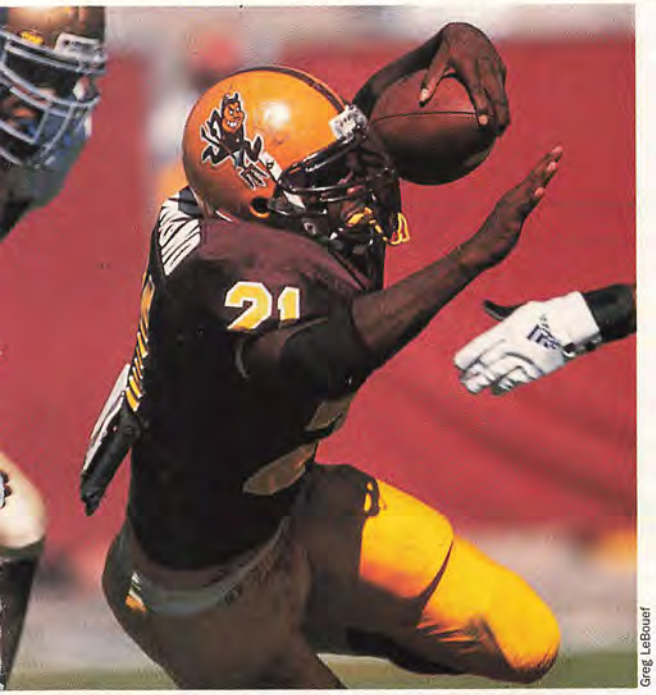
Head Coach: John L. Smith
1999 Prediction: 1st C-USA
1998 Record (C-USA): 7–5 (4–2)
Papa John's Cardinal Stadium (42,000)

Arizona State Sun Devils

26

Sometimes a step backward can mean a giant leap forward. That's what Arizona State football coach Bruce Snyder hopes will happen after an off-season of introspection and re-evaluation following a disappointing 5–6 season.

"Having a downturn can be really energizing, it can be challenging," Snyder says. "The staff is angry, yet excited. So are many of the players. If a downturn can be a positive, that's what happening to us right now."



Greg LeBouef

J.R. Redmond

With some significant personnel issues still to resolve, particularly on defense, ASU will be an unknown quantity. There is some firepower, but the defense needs improving.

45.7 With this punting average, Stephen Baker, as a redshirt freshman, broke the 56-year-old school record that was held by former Missouri head coach Al Onofrio.

"I don't know if our upcoming team will be more talented; it might even be less talented," Snyder says. "But I think we'll be a much more difficult team to beat (because) we'll be stronger internally."

Quarterback Ryan Kealy either fell victim to the sophomore jinx or couldn't handle the burden of piloting a team with title hopes. He played so poorly he was pulled from one game, failed to start another and was intercepted three times in a loss to Notre Dame. Kealy is anxious to atone for last year's disaster. He's also anxious to stay healthy; he has yet to play a season at ASU without hurting a knee, meaning the backup quarterback has to be ready to perform. Redshirt freshman Matt Cooper took several snaps in spring ball, and junior college transfer John Leonard arrives in the fall.

Tailback J.R. Redmond's decision to return for his senior season instantly gave ASU hope for 1999. Spectacular at times, the multi-faceted Redmond is a threat any time he has the ball. Delvon Flowers, billed as the nation's No. 1 junior college tailback prospect, arrives in the fall.

Redmond won't have his battering ram escort, fullback Jeff Paulk, and the search for a replacement is ongoing.

Starting flanker Tariq McDonald was having some academic problems, meaning that the starting trio in spring ball — sophomore Justin Taplin, junior Brian Forth, and redshirt freshman Joey Graves — had combined for four career catches, all by Forth. Transfer Ryan Dennard, whose father Preston played in the NFL, lacks great speed but brings a big target at 6'4", 210 pounds. Hotshot sophomore Todd Heap will try to hold off senior Kendrick Bates at tight end.

The one given on the offensive line is left tackle, where junior Marvel Smith hopes to blossom into an All-Pac-10 performer. Sophomore Scott Peters moves from guard to center. Rangy senior Thomas Schmidt goes from tackle to right guard, and junior Victor Leyva, two-year performer at right guard, slides outside to right tackle. That leaves left guard open, with sophomore Kyle Kosier and junior college transfer Kenneth Williamson vying for the job.

Much was expected of defensive end Erik Flowers and tackle Junior Ioane, a pair of juco All-Americans. But it took them awhile to adjust to the complexity and speed of big-time football. Now the staff is hoping each has a breakthrough season, though Ioane still has to crack the two-deep at tackle, where Che Britton has the starting spot. Junior Quincy Yancy holds down one end position and senior Ryan Reilly is steady at tackle.

Sophomore Eric Fields moved from strong-side linebacker, to middle linebacker. He lacks size (225 pounds) but brings much-needed athleticism. Junior Stephen Trejo, once a highly touted recruit, has settled in at strong-side linebacker, where his 6–3, 255-pound frame is best suited. Junior Adam Archuleta had a productive season as a first-time starter, leading the squad in tackles for loss with 18.

Senior cornerbacks Courtney Jackson and J'Juan Cherry, returning starters, were absent from spring ball for injury and academics respectively. Cherry's status is uncertain, but Jackson should be back to his starting spot at one corner. Senior Kareem Clark is filling in at Cherry's corner spot. Sophomore Willie Daniel and redshirt freshman Alfred Williams held down the safety spots in the spring.

Sophomore Stephen Baker is already one of the best punters in the country. He also kicked field goals, but ASU would prefer he concentrate on punting. Incoming freshman Mike Barth gets the chance to handle the field goals and extra points. Redmond is one of the nation's top kick returners.

Depth Chart

OFFENSE (6)

WR	4 Justin Taplin (So., 1)	6 Ryan Dennard (So., 0)
LT	**71 Marvel Smith (Jr., 2)**	78 Levi Jones (So., 1)
LG	69 Kyle Kosier (So., 0)	76 Kenneth Williamson (Jr., 0)
C	**53 Scott Peters (So., 1)**	61 Ryan Delnoce (Jr., 0)
RG	73 Thomas Schmidt (Sr., 1)	68 Kaleb Ramsay (Jr., 0)
RT	**75 Victor Leyva (Jr., 2)**	73 Thomas Schmidt (Sr., 1)
TE	80 Todd Heap (So., 1)	**85 Kendrick Bates (Sr., 2)**
QB	**8 Ryan Kealy (Jr., 2)**	14 Matt Cooper (Fr., 0)
FB	1 Terrelle Smith (Sr., 2)	43 Jake Each (So., 1)
TB	**21 J.R. Redmond (Sr., 3)**	9 Davaren Hightower (So., 1)
WR	12 Brian Forth (Jr., 2)	38 Joey Graves (Fr., 0)

DEFENSE (5)

LE	**91 Quincy Yancy (Jr., 2)**	86 Mike Pinkard (Fr., 0)
LT	95 Ryan Reilly (Sr., 2)	59 Tommie Townsend (So., 0)
RT	90 Che Britton (Sr., 2)	96 Jawell Samilton (Jr., 0)
RE	**36 Erik Flowers (Sr., 1)**	93 Elza Gennicks (So., 0)
LB	**40 Adam Archuleta (Jr., 2)**	46 Mason Unck (Fr., 0)
LB	**10 Eric Fields (So., 1)**	41 Adam Tanke (Jr., 0)
LB	30 Stephen Trejo (Jr., 2)	56 Jay Breckenridge (Fr., 0)
LC	**23 Courtney Jackson (Sr., 3)**	15 Jamel Ready (Sr., 2)
RC	26 Kareem Clark (Sr., 3)	22 Courtney Palmore (So., 1)
SS	37 Willie Daniel (So., 1)	2 Monté Franks (Jr., 0)
FS	39 Alfred Williams (Fr., 0)	18 Craig Koontz (Jr., 0)

SPECIAL TEAMS

K	16 Stephen Baker (So., 1)
P	Mike Barth (Fr., 0)
KR	21 J.R. Redmond (Sr., 3)
PR	21 J.R. Redmond (Sr., 3)

(#) Indicates number of returning starters
***BOLD** indicates returning starters*
NUMBER after class indicates letters won

Head Coach: Bruce Snyder — **1998 Record (Pac-10): 5-6 (4-4)**
1999 Prediction: 4th Pac-10 — **Sun Devil Stadium (73,379)**

TCU Horned Frogs

27

In his first year at Texas Christian, Dennis Franchione wiped out a 1–10 legacy, producing a 7–5 season capped by a stunning 28–19 victory over USC in the Sun Bowl.

In the aftermath of that success, TCU landed its best recruiting class in 15 years, and Franchione — armed with a new, improved multi-year contract — has become the town's most popular new resident.

John Betancourt

Reggie Hunt

The Horned Frogs seem well-equipped, with 14 returning starters (six offense, eight defense) bolstered by 20 players who were redshirted last year.

41 Number of years since TCU last won an conference title outright. The Frogs were Southwest Conference champions in 1958, tri-champs in '59 and in a five-way tie in '94.

"In terms of self-esteem and confidence, we are eons further along than at this time last year," Franchione says, "and we're in much better shape in terms of ability, leadership, unselfishness and communication."

TCU's offense is designed to be equally adept at running the option and passing. The Frogs destroyed USC with the option, but Franchione wants to be able to throw more effectively. The key is the quarterback.

Patrick Batteaux — the team's leading receiver two years ago — rushed for 479 yards and three TDs, but threw for only 519 and one score, with seven interceptions.

Behind him are Jeff Dover, a 53 percent passer with nearly 3,000 career yards; sophomore transfer (Texas A&M) Matt Schobel and redshirt freshman Sean Stilley, both of whom can run and throw; and coveted freshman recruit Casey Printers.

LaDainian Tomlinson, who was a back up to the tune of 717 yards and eight touchdowns, will step up to start at running back.

Backups are Charles Jones and LaTarence Dunbar, a sprinter on the track team. George Layne leads a physical contingent of fullbacks that includes junior transfer Chad Purcell and Nick Bulaich.

TCU often lines up with three wide receivers, and the Frogs return a starter at each slot. The leading returnees are Mike Scarborough and Royce Huffman. Michael Crawford and Cedric James alternate at the third slot. B.J. Roberts, the only true freshman to play last year, has the inside track at tight end.

On the offensive front, the Frogs will use a six-man rotation that is both large and impressive, beginning with tackle Michael Keathley, a second-team All-WAC performer with 15 starts under his belt. Next to him at guard the Frogs will alternate Shane Ladewig and Victor Payne, both experienced.

Jeff Garner started the final six games at center. A powerful blocker, he recorded 23 knockdowns when TCU scored 35 points to hand Air Force its only loss.

On the strong side there is Jeff Millican at guard and David Bobo at tackle.

There is sufficient depth and talent on the defensive line that Franchione plans an eight-man rotation to keep a fresh front in place at all times.

Spending time in the opposing backfield has become a specialty of end Aaron Schobel, a second team All-WAC selection who had 7.5 sacks and nine tackles for loss. Playing behind him on the right side is London Dunlap, the Defensive MVP in the Sun Bowl.

Doug Shanks, a senior returning from injury, will likely man the other end. Solid in the middle are J.W. Wilson and Shawn Worthen.

Franchione's defensive scheme features a 4–2 front with five men in the secondary as a hedge against the pass. The two linebackers play the middle and the strong side, helped out by the weak-side safety.

Terrance Maiden must step up to be the strong-side linebacker. Shannon Brazzell returns in the middle where he had 86 tackles.

With four of five starters returning, the Frogs feel good about the secondary. Returning at weak safety is Reggie Hunt, a second team All-WAC performer who had 119 tackles and forced a team-high four fumbles.

Curtis Fuller is back at free safety, where he had 81 tackles and scored two TDs. Strong safety Russell Gary had two fumble recoveries, three tackles for loss and blocked a field goal attempt. Greg Walls, who had a TD on an interception return, will be at one corner. Candidates at the other starting spot are Kendrick Patterson, Jason Goss and Bo Springfield.

Kicker Chris Kaylakie returns with All-WAC credentials after converting 15-of-20 field-goal attempts and 24-of-25 extra points. The do-it-all Huffman started slowly but finished with a 40.8 average after punting at a 46.3 clip over the final five games.

Depth Chart

OFFENSE (6)

WR	13	Cedric James (Jr., 2)	86	Michael Crawford (Jr., 2)
LT	**52**	**Michael Keathley (Jr., 2)**	70	J.T. Aughinbaugh (Fr., 0)
LG	78	Victor Payne (So., 1)	53	Shane Ladewig (Jr., 2)
C	**69**	**Jeff Garner (Jr., 1)**	73	Jamal Powell (Fr., 0)
RG	**72**	**Jeff Millican (Jr., 2)**	63	Brady Barrick (Fr., 0)
RT	61	David Bobo (Jr., 2)	68	Josh Harbuck (Fr., 0)
TE	91	B.J. Roberts (So., 1)	89	Kyle Williams (Sr., 3)
QB	**19**	**Patrick Batteaux (Sr., 3)**	15	Matt Schobel (So., 0)
RB	5	LaDainian Tomlinson (Jr., 2)	23	Charles Jones (Jr., 2)
WR	**12**	**Royce Huffman (Jr., 2)**	1	Tim Maiden (So., 1)
WR	**87**	**Mike Scarborough (Sr., 1)**	83	Terran Williams (Fr., 0)

DEFENSE (8)

DE	90	Doug Shanks (Sr., 0)	92	Chad McCarty (So., 1)
DT	**95**	**Shawn Worthen (Jr., 2)**	50	Fred Wright (So., 1)
DT	**75**	**J.W. Wilson (Sr., 3)**	97	Stuart Ashley (Jr., 2)
DE	**14**	**Aaron Schobel (Jr., 2)**	55	London Dunlap (Sr., 2)
LB	59	Terrance Maiden (Jr., 2)	42	Adrian Lewis (So., 0)
LB	**41**	**Shannon Brazzell (Jr., 2)**	44	Allen Lewis (So., 0)
CB	27	Kendrick Patterson (Jr., 2)	39	Jason Goss (Fr., 0)
CB	**20**	**Greg Walls (Jr., 2)**	30	Bo Springfield (Fr., 0)
SS	**33**	**Russell Gary (Jr., 2)**	36	Bird Jones (Jr., 0)
WS	**2**	**Reggie Hunt (Sr., 3)**	17	Charlie Owens (So., 1)
FS	**18**	**Curtis Fuller (Jr., 1)**	11	LaVar Veale (Jr., 2)

SPECIAL TEAMS

K	80	Chris Kaylakie (Jr., 1)			
P	12	Royce Huffman (Sr., 3)			
KR	5	LaDainian Tomlinson (Jr., 2)	2	Reggie Hunt (Sr., 3)
PR	12	Royce Huffman (Sr., 3)	86	Michael Crawford (Jr., 2)

(#) Indicates number of returning starters
***BOLD** indicates returning starters*
NUMBER after class indicates letters won

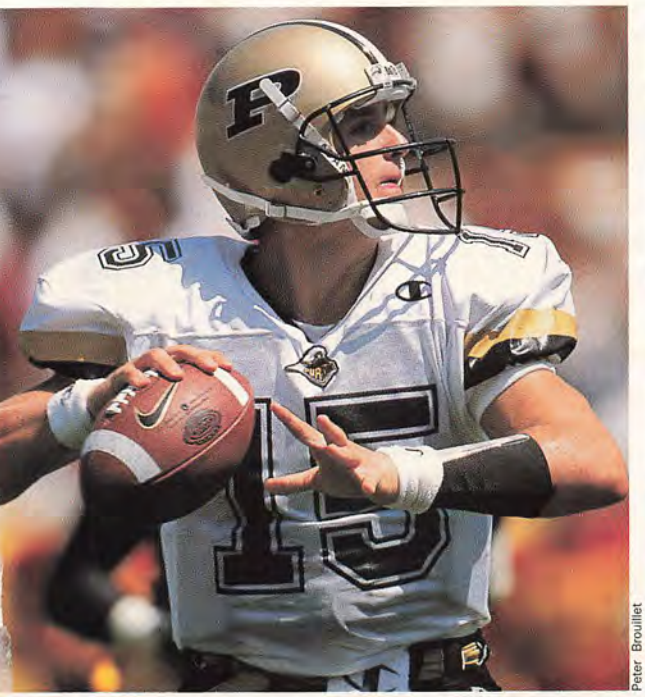
Head Coach: Dennis Franchione — **1998 Record (WAC): 7–5 (4–4)**
1999 Prediction: 1st WAC — **Carter Stadium (46,000)**

Purdue Boilermakers

28

Not that Purdue coach Joe Tiller hasn't been tested during his first two seasons with the Boilermakers, but his remarkable 18–7 record is missing something. Something along the lines of, say, Ohio State and Michigan.

Tiller and the Boilers no longer have the luxury of avoiding the two teams that have won or shared the Big Ten title the last two seasons. To make matters worse, they'll face them back-to-back to open October. Make that "Black October," considering Purdue then goes home to face Michigan State and Penn State in what has to be one of the most hellish months for any Big Ten team. Luckily, top-notch quarterback Drew Brees is back.



Peter Brouillet

Drew Brees

4,000 That's the minimum number of yards Drew Brees intends to throw for this season. He was just shy of that mark last year with 3,983 and 39 touchdowns (including the Alamo Bowl). This year he'd like to be the 4,000/40 man.

Brees for Heisman. Brees for Heisman. If you haven't read it yet, you'll read it plenty this year. In his first full season as a starter last year, Brees threw for 3,753 yards and 36 touchdowns, more than any quarterback ever in the Big Ten. Brees had off-season surgery to remove extra bone growth from the outside of his foot, but he was fully recovered by the start of spring practice.

At running back, senior J. Crabtree and sophomore Dondre Johnson didn't exactly turn heads last year. Crabtree and Johnson shared the running chores at tailback, and they'll be doing so again this year. Crabtree had 140 carries for 602 yards, while Johnson, who has good size and quickness, added 442 yards.

Brees put up those gaudy numbers, and someone had to be catching all those passes. Senior Randall Lane, who had 64 receptions last season (second on the team) and a team-leading 72-yards-per-game average, is one of Brees' primary targets. Senior Chris Daniels and junior Vinny Sutherland are slated for starting jobs.

Sophomore Chris Randolph will start, with redshirt freshmen Pete Lougheed and Doyal Butler providing depth at tight end.

Tiller wants to run the ball more this year — Purdue averaged 116 yards rushing last season — and will implement two- and three-tight end sets as part of a power running game. Otherwise, the Boilermakers return a veteran line anchored by two-year starting center Jim Niedrach. The line did what it should do well and gave Brees solid protection.

While the offense garnered all the headlines last season, it was the Purdue defense that quietly got the job done. Certainly, the defense made the difference in the Alamo Bowl upset of Kansas State.

But the Boilers must replace some key players, including ends Rosevelt Colvin and Chike Okeafor, who combined for 23 of the team's 30 sacks. Junior Warren Moore appears poised to take over one end spot. Junior Brian Dinkins, who is slightly undersized (239 pounds) likely will start at the other. Senior David Nugent returns at right tackle, and sophomore Matt Mitrione will start at left tackle.

Linebackers and defensive linemen were the focus of Tiller's incoming freshman class, and that's clearly where the needs are. There are still some question marks at linebacker, but more than likely, junior-college transfer Akin Ayodele will take over one of the spots. Tiller likes his ability to play end, but needs his size and quickness more at linebacker.

Starting middle linebacker Willie Fells led the team in tackles a year ago with 100. Junior Mike Rose missed the spring because of baseball but is in line for a big year. Jason Loerzel started six games and was fourth on the team in tackles.

The hope is that all the work Purdue has done with its two-tight end set has also improved the run defense. Time will tell.

In the secondary, Billy Gustin and Henry Bell, who accounted for seven of the team's 16 interceptions, are gone, but senior Adrian Beasley returns at strong safety and offers stability. He was the team's second-leading tackler with 69 and tied for third in interceptions with two. Senior Lamar Conard, a former walk-on, had four pass break-ups and returns at free safety behind Ben Smith. At the corners are junior Chris Clopton and senior Da'Shann Austin.

Senior Danny Rogers has the punting job locked up. Sophomore Travis Dorsch will kick. Sutherland will be used on punt returns, and Clopton is the kick returner.

Depth Chart

OFFENSE (6)

WR	14	Vinny Sutherland (Jr., 2)	1	Donald Winston (Sr., 2)
LT	**78**	**Matt Light (Jr., 2)**	55	Ian Allen (Jr., 2)
LG	79	Gene Mruczkowski (Fr., 0)	76	Joe Webster (Fr., 0)
C	**63**	**Jim Niedrach (Sr., 2)**	72	Josh Kirkpatrick (So., 0)
RG	**56**	**Chukky Okobi (Jr., 2)**	64	Seth Morris (Fr., 0)
RT	77	Brandon Gorin (Jr., 2)	68	Kelly Kitchel (Fr., 0)
TE	81	Chris Randolph (So., 1)	93	Pete Lougheed (Fr., 0)
QB	**15**	**Drew Brees (Jr., 2)**	10	David Edgerton (Jr., 1)
RB	**34**	**J. Crabtree (Sr., 1)**	24	Dondre Johnson (So., 1)
WR	20	Chris Daniels (Sr., 3)	9	Robert Tolbert (Sr., 2)
WR	**84**	**Randall Lane (Sr., 1)**	80	A.T. Simpson (So., 1)

DEFENSE (6)

DE	50	Brian Dinkins (Jr., 0)	90	Derrick Williams (Jr., 0)
DT	**98**	**Matt Mitrione (So., 1)**	42	Brent Botts (Jr., 2)
DT	**82**	**David Nugent (Sr., 3)**	94	Sean Rufolo (So., 0)
DE	58	Warren Moore (Jr., 2)	90	Derrick Williams (Jr., 0)
LB	**88**	**Jason Loerzel (So., 1)**	4	Mike Rose (Sr., 3)
LB	**40**	**Willie Fells (Sr., 3)**	57	Ray Lee (Sr., 3)
LB		Akin Ayodele (Jr., 0)	51	Joe Odom (Fr., 0)
CB	2	Chris Clopton (Jr., 2)	11	Michael Hawthorne (Sr., 2)
CB	**33**	**Da'Shann Austin (Sr., 1)**	28	James Dunnigan (Fr., 0)
SS	**7**	**Adrian Beasley (Sr., 3)**	38	Brady Doe (Jr., 1)
FS	17	Ben Smith (So., 1)	22	Lamar Conard (Sr., 3)

SPECIAL TEAMS

K	30	Travis Dorsch (So., 1)
P	26	Danny Rogers (Sr., 3)
KR	2	Chris Clopton (Jr., 2)
PR	14	Vinny Sutherland (Jr., 2)

(#) Indicates number of returning starters
***BOLD** indicates returning starters*
NUMBER after class indicates letters won

Head Coach: Joe Tiller — 1998 Record (Big 10): 9-4 (6-2)
1999 Prediction: 5th Big 10 — Ross-Ade Stadium (67,332)

Michigan State Spartans

29

Michigan State's long list of question marks suggests that 1999 won't be the year the Spartans contend for a Big Ten title. However, off-season upgrades may help the Spartans survive a brutal schedule and land in a bowl game for the fourth time in five years.

Nick Saban has instructed new defensive coordinator Bill Miller to crank up Michigan State's aggressiveness in the front seven with more pressing and attacking. The defense returns seven starters, and there is enough talent at linebacker and cornerback to make the press work.

Brain Ebner

Bill Burke

3 Michigan State's record in its last three games against teams ranked in the Top 10. The Spartans upset No. 4 Penn State in the regular season finale of 1997, and beat No. 1 Ohio State and No. 10 Notre Dame in 1998.

When quarterback Bill Burke is on, Michigan State plays like a Top 20 team. The senior left-hander, who holds the school record for most passing yards in a season (2,595), has the tools to make opposing defenses nervous. Sophomore Ryan Van Dyke saw action in seven games last year and has more arm strength than Burke, but Van Dyke's decision-making skills are not as advanced.

A tight competition at running back indicates that the Spartans either have four quality tailbacks or four mediocre ones. One (Lloyd Clemons) is a former walk-on and the other three were blue chip recruits. But none is standing out in the race to replace Sedrick Irvin. Clemons got the most work in '98, averaging seven carries per game. Sophomore Shawn Foster is the fastest running back. Sophomore Little John Flowers is quick, strong and elusive. Senior Leroy McFadden has moved from tailback to fullback, where he will put his 242 pounds to work as a blocker.

Michigan State has the best receiving tandem in the Big Ten with Plaxico Burress and Gari Scott. Both are bona fide NFL prospects. Sophomore Herb Haygood is the team's fastest player (4.4) and is a threat on reverses.

Sophomore Chris Baker leads a deep cast of tight ends.

The Spartan offensive line is not young or thin, it's just unproven. If junior college transfer Tupe Peko pans out at left tackle, it will allow second-year starter Dave Sucura to move from left tackle to his natural position of left guard. Junior Shaun Mason was expected to be the team's best lineman a year ago, but sat out with a knee injury. He started 12 games as a freshman and is healthy again. Senior Greg Robinson-Randall is an athletic returning starter at right tackle. Senior Casey Jensen, a starter at right guard in '98, will replace All-Big Ten center Jason Strayhorn.

Maybe this is the year MSU's talented defensive line performs up to its potential. Senior right end Robaire Smith, a consensus preseason All-America candidate in '98, returns after a quiet junior year. Junior Pete Govens is a returning regular at tackle, where senior Desmond Thomas has the strength and technique to break through in '99. Physical junior Jace Sayler started at left end but has made a smooth move to tackle. Sophomore Nick Myers holds down the other end position. Juco transfer Jabari Hendricks could make noise as well.

Senior Julian Peterson, who tied the school record with 18 tackles for loss last year, will bounce between defensive end and strong side linebacker.

Saban wants to build from the inside out at linebacker with rising stars Josh Thornhill and T.J. Turner. MSU's rush defense improved last year when Thornhill, a sophomore, and Turner, a junior, took over for Mike Austin and Shawn Wright. Austin may find a home at strong-side linebacker on second and third down. Wright is good in pass coverage and may be used in the nickel defense. Incoming freshman T.J. Duckett should earn a role in the two-deep.

Sophomore Cedric Henry and junior Renaldo Hill may have the cover ability to give the other defensive players freedom to attack and gamble. After sustaining a career-threatening neck injury, senior Amp Campbell may return if he gains medical clearance. Senior strong safety Aric Morris is solid. Lorenzo Guess, Richard Newsome and juco transfer Drew Young will compete at free safety.

Senior Paul Edinger is a consistent kicker. Sophomore punter Craig Jarrett had a 43.7-yard average. Scott is a top punt returner in the Big Ten, but Saban wants improvement on his 19.7-yard average on kick returns.

Depth Chart

OFFENSE (8)

SE	4	**Plaxico Burress (Jr., 1)**	7	Lavaile Richardson (Jr., 2)
LT	70	**Dave Sucura (Jr., 2)**	74	Tupe Peko (Jr., 0)
LG	57	**Paul Harker (So., 1)**	63	Marty Wensel (So., 0)
C	64	**Casey Jensen (Sr., 3)**	77	Josh Smith (So., 0)
RG	71	Shaun Mason (Jr., 1)	58	Matt Branson (So., 0)
RT	76	**Greg Robinson-Randall (Sr., 1)**	72	Matt Bonito (Jr., 1)
TE	83	**Chris Baker (So., 1)**	85	Ivory McCoy (Jr., 1)
FL	86	**Gari Scott (Sr., 3)**	2	Herb Haygood (So., 1)
QB	16	**Bill Burke (Sr., 3)**	13	Ryan Van Dyke (So., 1)
FB	28	Leroy McFadden (Sr., 2)	34	Billy Greene (Sr., 3)
TB	36	Lloyd Clemons (Sr., 1)	22	Shawn Foster (So., 1)

DEFENSE (7)

LE	75	Nick Myers (So., 1)	89	Hubert Thompson (So., 0)
LT	80	**Jace Sayler (Jr., 2)**	95	Josh Shaw (So., 1)
RT	92	**Pete Govens (Jr., 3)**	66	Desmond Thomas (Sr., 3)
RE	91	**Robaire Smith (Sr., 2)**		Jabari Hendricks (Jr., 0)
LB	25	Mike Austin (Sr., 3)	98	Julian Peterson (Sr., 1)
LB	35	**T.J. Turner (Jr., 2)**	40	Wes Kammer (Jr., 0)
LB	50	**Josh Thornhill (So., 1)**	31	Shawn Wright (Sr., 3)
LC	37	Cedric Henry (So., 1)	39	Donvetis Franklin (Sr., 1)
RC	15	**Renaldo Hill (Jr., 1)**	19	DeMario Suggs (Jr., 1)
SS	9	**Aric Morris (Sr., 3)**	27	Duron Bryan (So., 0)
FS	32	Richard Newsome (Jr., 2)	5	Lorenzo Guess (So., 1)

SPECIAL TEAMS

K	1	Paul Edinger (Sr., 3)
P	12	Craig Jarrett (So., 1)
KR	86	Gari Scott (Sr., 3)
PR	86	Gari Scott (Sr., 3)

(#) Indicates number of returning starters
***BOLD** indicates returning starters*
NUMBER after class indicates letters won

Head Coach: Nick Saban | **1998 Record (Big 10): 6-6 (4-4)**
1999 Prediction: 6th Big 10 | **Spartan Stadium (72,027)**

San Diego State Aztecs

30

Dave Lay, offensive coordinator, remembers the old days of Aztec football: the early '90s, when the team could not stop anybody but sure was entertaining.

Then there was last season, when they shared the WAC Pacific Division title and played in their first bowl game in seven seasons, even while ranking 12th in the league in total offense. Now that SDSU has a championship-level defense, the team's offensive coordinator is eager to do his part. "We'll be much better this year, more like a regular San Diego State offense," Lay promises.

Dave Stock

Damon Gourdine

> The Aztecs' 10–0 win over Fresno State was their first shutout since 1984. It came in the middle of a three-week stretch when SDSU did not allow an offensive touchdown by BYU, blanked the Bulldogs and did not let San Jose State score until the last 13 seconds of the game.

If the quarterbacking improves, the Aztecs have every chance of winning the first Mountain West Conference title in coach Ted Tollner's sixth season at the school.

Junior quarterback Brian Russell kept the Aztec offense together after Spencer Brinton was injured. Brinton later left the school. Except for the 13–0 loss in the rain at BYU, where he played most of the game with a minor concussion, Russell was fairly efficient, throwing for almost 1,500 yards and eight touchdowns. His arm is adequate, but he's not a downfield passer. That's why junior college transfer Jack Hawley is likely to take over at some point. Hawley threw for more than 5,000 yards in two years of junior college.

Senior Jonas Lewis and junior Larry Ned are interchangeable in SDSU's one-back offense. Both averaged 5.0 yards a carry, and they gained nearly 1,700 yards between them. Lay intends to use a two-back formation at times, employing sophomore James Truvillion or senior Mike Williams at fullback.

The Aztecs will have higher quality receivers and enough quantity to stick with the three-receiver scheme that Lay favors. Senior Damon Gourdine caught 55 passes despite standing only 5'7", and Lay is eager to surround him with taller receivers. Derrick Lewis (6'2") and Bill Hammett (6'3") are junior college transfers who fit that profile. Former quarterback Lonny Mitchell returns at H-back after catching 16 passes, and redshirt freshman J.R. Tolver is a talented young receiver who could help.

Senior tight end Jim Ange is a solid receiver and blocker, and junior Gray McNeill will share playing time with him.

Lay suggests this could be SDSU's best line ever. Senior center Mike Malano is the anchor of the group, having graded out at 88 percent while allowing no sacks. Senior strong tackle Greg Spillane had a decent year after replacing All-American Kyle Turley, and senior strong guard Andrew Kline is also dependable. Senior Brad Elmore will move from guard to tackle, giving junior Ted Printy, who was ineligible last season, a shot at weak guard.

The defense is built around senior end and all-star candidate Kabeer Gbaja-Biamila, a terrific pass rusher with 21 career sacks. Senior Scottie Nicholson moved to end last September and should be more effective, now that he's bigger and stronger. Nose tackle Jerome Haywood was one of the top freshmen in the WAC last year. Junior college transfer George Heather, converted end Antwone Young or Gbaja-Biamila's younger brother Akbar could become the other tackle.

Senior middle linebacker Joey Mayo finished second on the team in tackles as a junior college transfer. Some combination of senior Martin Chlumak, transfers Brian Berg and Ross Marchbanks and seniors Michael Duran and Scott Johnson will have to step into the two linebacker vacancies.

Senior Rico Curtis is a strong, smart strong safety. Free safety is in the hands of senior Jermaine Watkins or junior Stan Bogard. Senior cornerback Aazaar Abdul-Rahim has five career interceptions as an off-and-on starter. Junior college transfer Bishop Miller will compete with senior Tairou Smith and sophomore Wesley Ace at the other corner.

The return game is the attractive part of SDSU's special teams, thanks to Gourdine. He returned two punts for touchdowns, going 95 yards against Utah, and averaged 24.5 yards on kickoff returns.

Justin Sisco averaged 44.8 yards per punt in junior college, much better than the Aztecs' 40.0 mark of last year. Junior kicker Nate Tandberg was inconsistent, and Sisco will get a look there, too.

Depth Chart

OFFENSE (9)

WR	1	**Damon Gourdine (Sr., 2)**	11	Deric Martin (So., 0)
LT	65	**Greg Spillane (Sr., 2)**	62	Chris Williams (Jr., 1)
LG	76	**Andrew Kline (Sr., 3)**	63	Kareem Missoumi (Jr., 0)
C	53	**Mike Malano (Sr., 3)**	64	Zach LaMonda (So., 0)
RG	66	Ted Printy (Sr., 0)	60	Johnathan Ingram (Fr., 0)
RT	78	**Brad Elmore (Sr., 1)**	69	Mike Houghton (So., 0)
TE	88	**Jim Ange (Sr., 1)**	86	Gray McNeill (Jr., 2)
QB	18	**Brian Russell (Jr., 1)**	5	Jack Hawley (Jr., 0)
RB	32	**Jonas Lewis (Sr., 3)**	4	Larry Ned (Jr., 1)
HB	12	**Lonny Mitchell (Sr., 2)**	83	Bill Hammett (Jr., 0)
FL	2	Sean Pierce (Jr., 0)	80	J.R. Tolver (Fr., 0)

DEFENSE (5)

LE	93	**K. Gbaja-Biamila (Sr., 3)**	90	Ryan Iata (So., 0)
DT	92	Antwone Young (Sr., 2)	94	Akbar Gbaja-Biamila (Jr., 0)
NT	51	**Jerome Haywood (So., 1)**	96	Jared Ritter (Fr., 0)
RE	97	**Scottie Nicholson (Sr., 1)**	98	Mark Scott (Sr., 0)
LB	52	Martin Chlumak (Sr., 0)	48	Brian Berg (Jr., 0)
LB	55	**Joey Mayo (Sr., 1)**	38	Mac Cleary (Jr., 1)
LB	46	Michael Duran (Sr., 3)	56	Scott Johnson (Sr., 3)
LC	23	Aazaar Abdul-Rahim (Sr., 2)	36	Kevin Burton (Sr., 1)
RC	22	Tairou Smith (Sr., 2)	20	Wesley Ace (So., 0)
SS	37	**Rico Curtis (Sr., 3)**	10	Sheldon Pope (Sr., 3)
FS	19	Jermaine Watkins (Sr., 1)	24	Stan Bogard (Jr., 0)

SPECIAL TEAMS

K	14	Nate Tandberg (Jr., 2)
P		Justin Sisco (Jr., 0)
KR	1	Damon Gourdine (Sr., 2)
PR	1	Damon Gourdine (Sr., 2)

(#) Indicates number of returning starters
***BOLD** indicates returning starters*
NUMBER after class indicates letters won

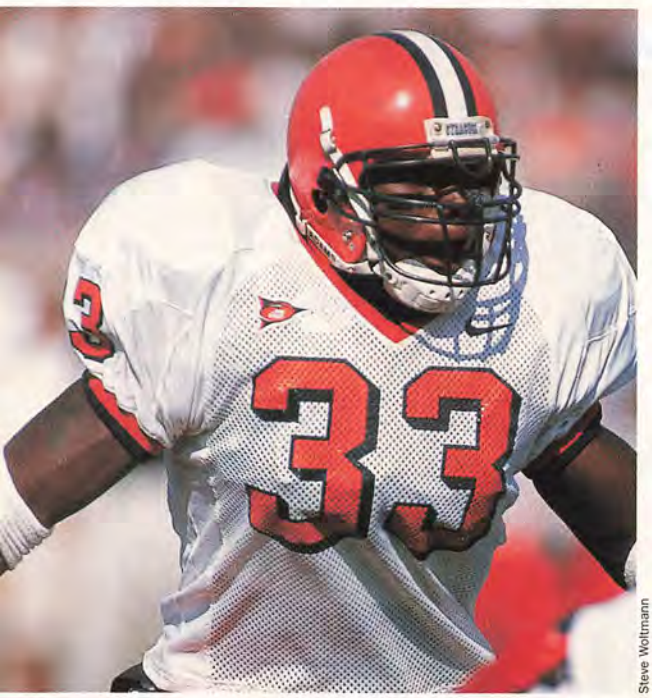
Head Coach: Ted Tollner — **1998 Record (WAC): 7–5 (7–1)**
1999 Prediction: 2nd MWC — **Qualcomm Stadium (71,400)**

Syracuse Orangemen

31

The careworn gloves protect the Syracuse University football team's most gifted hands. "Bless me" is scribbled onto each palm. All-Big East receiver Quinton Spotwood is returning from knee surgery, and he has good reason to ask for divine intervention.

A day Orange fans dreaded is upon the Big East's three-time defending champions. Donovan McNabb is no longer in the house.



Steve Woltmann

Keith Bulluck

"You won't see the guy with a halo over his head," Spotwood says.

Replacing quarterbacks has been routine over the last decade at Syracuse. It's just that Syracuse has never had to replace a quarterback quite like McNabb. Maybe that's why five assistant coaches bolted during the winter.

77 The number of touchdown passes Donovan McNabb threw during his Syracuse career. McNabb started all 49 of Syracuse's games over the last four years.

Stability at quarterback has been the key to coach Paul Pasqualoni's success. The next contender to lend that stability is sophomore Madei Williams, who spent two years soaking in the offense behind McNabb and has an opportunity to be a three-year starter. He possesses good size (6'2", 202) and arm strength.

There's still competition, though, because Williams hasn't gone out and won the job. It was a serious enough problem in the spring that tailback Dee Brown was tried at quarterback. The idea of using Brown, a successful high school option quarterback, seems to intrigue Pasqualoni. Don't be surprised if the Orangemen rotate quarterbacks in small spurts to throw the defense a curve ball. Redshirt freshman Troy Nunes might be the best passer in the group.

Brown is the starting tailback; James Mungro is the star. Brown is deceptively tough, shifty and effective at the goal line (seven TDs), but Mungro, the most talked-about running back at Syracuse in two decades, has a special gift for picking his holes and slipping tackles. Fullback Nick Sudano is a battering ram.

Spotwood is one of the nation's premier receivers, but he is coming off knee surgery. Senior Jeff Lowe is the unit's best blocker and did a solid job taking over for Spotwood last year. Pat Woodcock finally gets his chance in the rotation. Stephen Brominski might be the best receiving tight end at Syracuse since All-American Chris Gedney.

Four starters return along the offensive line. Tackle Mark Baniewicz is one of the best pass protectors in the Big East. Cory Bowen and P.J. Alexander will continue to alternate at center. Bill O'Donnell makes the switch from right guard to left guard. Right tackle Jeff Pilon hopes to stay healthy, though backup Sean O'Connor has emerged as a front-line player. Junior Emerson Kilgore moves into the vacancy at right guard.

Duke Pettijohn started the year on the bench, but he got a second chance and became a pass-rushing force (6½ sacks) at defensive end. As a true freshman, Dwight Freeney showed flashes of being a player. Tackle Rickie Simpkins returns and is evolving into a disrupter. The real key rests on the return from a knee injury of tackle Donald Dinkins, the group's best player and its most versatile.

Keith Bulluck has All-America abilities and exceptional speed. He runs sideline to sideline as well as anyone in the league. Morlon Greenwood does the dirty work at strong-side linebacker. Vernon Banks is another one of those safety-conversions battling to take over on the weak side. J.R. Johnson is making the same switch and figures to play, though both better hit the ground running with highly-regarded juco transfer Idris Price arriving this August.

The secondary has two openings, though the prospects for improvement are good. Cornerback Will Allen shut down Florida's Travis McGriff in the Orange Bowl. David Byrd showed plenty of rust from his one-year sabbatical to run track but is another excellent player. There was no bigger surprise on the team last year than free safety Quentin Harris, who made 17 tackles in the Orange Bowl and led the Orangemen with three picks. Ian McIntosh has been burned so many times that coaches have finally moved him to safety, where his size and durability are suspect.

Kicker Nate Trout should become the school's all-time leading scorer this season. He has a string of 61 straight PATs without a miss. The new punter could be junior Peter Ferris, walk-on Chris Bokel or freshman Mike Shafer. Spotwood is as good as anyone returning punts. McIntosh has a chance to replace Kevin Johnson on kick returns.

Depth Chart

OFFENSE (6)

WR	19	Jeff Lowe (Sr., 2)	16	Pat Woodcock (Jr., 1)
LT	**59**	**Mark Baniewicz (Sr., 2)**	73	Erik Kaloyanides (Fr., 0)
LG	**67**	**Bill O'Donnell (Sr., 1)**	62	Emerson Kilgore (Jr., 1)
C	**55**	**Cory Bowen (Sr., 3)**	69	P.J. Alexander (So., 1)
RG	62	Emerson Kilgore (Jr., 1)	65	Joe Burton (So., 0)
RT	**64**	**Jeff Pilon (Sr., 2)**	76	Sean O'Connor (So., 1)
TE	**87**	**Stephen Brominski (Sr., 3)**	88	Mike Bennett (Sr., 1)
QB	17	Madei Williams (So., 1)	11	Troy Nunes (Fr., 0)
FB	35	Nick Sudano (Sr., 2)	32	Kyle Johnson (Jr., 0)
RB	6	Dee Brown (Jr., 2)	23	James Mungro (So., 1)
WR	**8**	**Quinton Spotwood (Sr., 3)**	26	Maurice Minter (So., 0)

DEFENSE (7)

LE	**49**	**Duke Pettijohn (Jr., 1)**	97	Giovanni DeLoatch (So., 0)
LT	**70**	**Donald Dinkins (Sr., 2)**	90	Eric Downing (Sr., 1)
RT	**98**	**Rickie Simpkins (Jr., 1)**	99	Derrick Corley (Sr., 2)
RE	54	Dwight Freeney (So., 1)	53	Mark Holtzman (So., 0)
LB	**52**	**Morlon Greenwood (Jr., 2)**	27	Kevin O'Neil (Sr., 2)
LB	**33**	**Keith Bulluck (Sr., 3)**	51	Matt Klaus (Sr., 2)
LB	46	Vernon Banks (Sr., 1)	45	J.R. Johnson (So., 0)
LC	**25**	**Will Allen (Jr., 2)**	39	Andre Brinson (So., 0)
RC	22	David Byrd (Sr., 1)	47	Latroy Oliver (Fr., 0)
SS	15	Willie Ford (So., 1)	37	Charles Burton (So., 1)
FS	**29**	**Quentin Harris (So., 1)**	2	Ian McIntosh (Sr., 3)

SPECIAL TEAMS

K	36	Nate Trout (Sr., 3)
P	24	Peter Ferris (Jr., 1)
KR	2	Ian McIntosh (Sr., 3)
PR	8	Quinton Spotwood (Sr., 3)

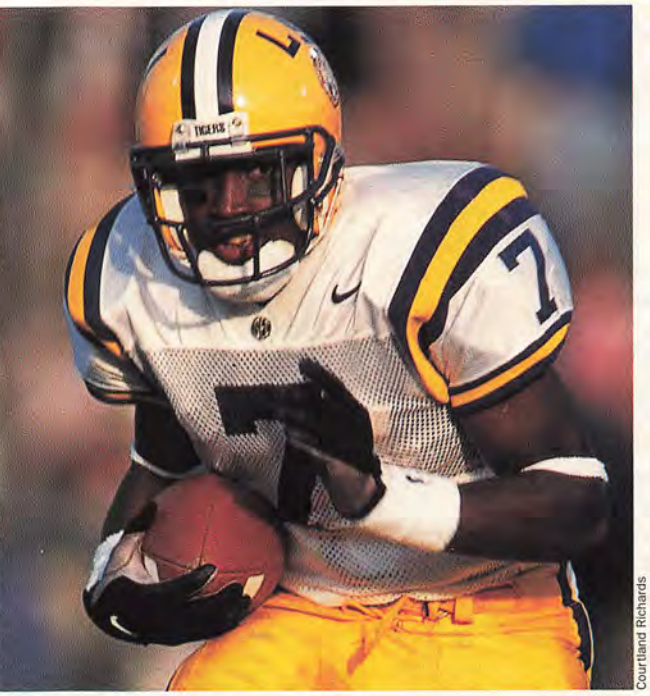
(#) Indicates number of returning starters
***BOLD** indicates returning starters*
NUMBER after class indicates letters won

Head Coach: Paul Pasqualoni **1998 Record (Big East): 8–4 (6–1)**
1999 Prediction: 3rd Big East **Carrier Dome (50,000)**

LSU Tigers

32

Gerry DiNardo, the man who went from genius (1996) to bum (1998), enters his fifth season in Tigertown seeking desperately to recapture the magic he suddenly lost in what was supposed to be his breakthrough season. It was a year in which the Tigers were in position time and again to make a play at crunch time, yet never could.



Courtland Richards

Rondell Mealey

"I'm very angry at myself because I know better than anyone I did not do a good job," says DiNardo of a 4–7 season that made LSU college football's biggest disappointment.

The enthusiasm over 15 returning starters is tempered by the loss of All-America nose guard Anthony McFarland, center Todd McClure, tailback Kevin Faulk and quarterback Herb Tyler. Yet DiNardo is confident. "We're going back to basics and we're not going to panic," he says.

839,436 Has any team ever lost seven games in one season before so many paying customers? The '98 Tigers did, playing before 11 sellouts.

Although the depth chart says there are three 6'3" quarterback candidates, to most it's a depth chart that reads Josh Booty-Josh Booty-Josh Booty. The feeling is that Booty, the celebrated walk-on, will win the job over Craig Nall.

Of course, the kid whom Bill Walsh of the 49ers called "the best high school quarterback I've ever seen" hasn't taken a snap in competition in the last six years. The Florida Marlins lured the power-hitting infielder into baseball with a $1.6 million bonus and, many curveballs later, the "can't-miss" prospect agreed to pay back part of that bonus to return to his first love: LSU football.

Tailback Rondell Mealey has scored 21 touchdowns and averaged 5.7 yards per carry, but it's been his misfortune to spend three seasons in the shadow of Kevin Faulk and Cecil Collins. Now the MVP of the '97 Independence Bowl will get a chance to make use of his inside strength and outside speed. Beyond Mealey and fullback Tommy Banks, DiNardo will be dealing largely with mystery guests.

With the top three wideouts — Larry Foster, Abram Booty and Reggie Robinson — returning, the receiving corps should not pose problems, even though Booty, Josh's younger brother, underwent back surgery during the off-season.

Thanks to some NFL-sized specimens, tight end is well-stocked. Kyle Kipps is a returning starter, and highly rated Joe Domingeaux returns from surgery. Eric Edwards may be a better prospect than ex-Tiger David LaFleur, a first-round pick of the Cowboys.

If the Tigers can come up with a replacement for McClure, the biggest problem along the front will be solved. DiNardo feels either John Compton or Alvin Puckett could be the answer.

Tackles Louis Williams and Brandon Winey return as starters, while Trey Langley and sometime-starter Al Jackson return at the guards, giving LSU a seasoned front. DiNardo helped himself with another stellar recruiting class.

It would not be surprising if freshman Walter Young, a 6'4", 290-pound colossus, moves into the nose guard position vacated by McFarland. To do it, he'll probably have to beat out Kareem Mitchell, but he may pull it off.

Jarvis Green, the ringleader of the defensive linemen, was dominant enough to wind up on freshman All-America teams, thanks to eight sacks and 36 solo tackles. On the other side, Johnny Mitchell returns after starting every game.

As the defense did its best Swiss cheese impersonation, the main culprits were the linebackers. Help may come from the freshmen. Bradie James and Treverance Faulk, a cousin of Kevin's, could work their way into the lineup. They're both 6'3" with range and quickness. Jamal Hill and Thomas Dunson return as starters while Theo Williams and Charles Smith try to fight off the freshmen.

There was no impact player in the secondary, which turned quarterbacks into virtuosos. DiNardo hopes the shift of Mark Roman from free safety to corner will help.

Much hinges on how others perform — Ryan Clark and Damien James at free safety, Clarence LeBlanc at strong safety, Damien Woods and Fred Booker at the other corner.

Kicking was an adventure for a club that may have set a record for hitting uprights and crossbars. Last year's suspects may give way to a newcomer. Placekicker John Corbello hit two field goals from beyond 50 yards as a high school senior. Punter Corey Gibbs was second in the SEC but must stave off Donnie Jones, who checks in with a 43.4-yard average.

Depth Chart

OFFENSE (7)

SE	**88 Abram Booty (Jr., 2)**	47	Reggie Robinson (So., 1)
LT	**70 Louis Williams (Jr., 2)**	61	Sam Forehand (Fr., 0)
LG	71 Al Jackson (Sr., 2)	73	Rob Sale (Fr., 0)
C	64 John Compton (Jr., 0)	67	Alvin Puckett (Jr., 0)
RG	**75 Trey Langley (Jr., 2)**	74	Brad Smalling (Fr., 0)
RT	**68 Brandon Winey (Jr., 1)**	79	Jason Underwood (So., 0)
TE	**85 Kyle Kipps (So., 1)**	87	Joe Domingeaux (So., 1)
QB	16 Craig Nall (So., 1)		Josh Booty (So., 0)
FB	**43 Tommy Banks (Jr., 2)**	44	Robert Tyler (Jr., 2)
TB	7 Rondell Mealey (Sr., 3)	10	LaVar Johnson (So., 0)
FL	**22 Larry Foster (Sr., 3)**	89	Ed Dangerfield (So., 0)

DEFENSE (8)

DT	**95 Johnny Mitchell (Sr., 3)**	82	Jason Baggett (Fr., 0)
NG	97 Kareem Mitchell (Jr., 0)		Walter Young (Fr., 0)
DE	**59 Jarvis Green (So., 1)**	54	Kenderick Allen (So., 1)
LB	93 Theo Williams (Sr., 3)		Bradie James (Fr., 0)
LB	35 Charles Smith (Sr., 3)		Treverance Faulk (Fr., 0)
LB	**52 Thomas Dunson (So., 1)**	46	Wardell Sykes (Jr., 0)
LB	**45 Jamal Hill (Jr., 1)**	40	Lionel Thomas (So., 1)
CB	**8 Mark Roman (Sr., 3)**	9	Robert Davis (So., 1)
CB	**27 Damien Woods (Sr., 1)**	**1**	**Fred Booker (Jr., 2)**
SS	**18 Clarence LeBlanc (Sr., 3)**	29	Terrence O'Bryant (So., 0)
FS	5 Ryan Clark (So., 1)	13	Damien James (Fr., 0)

SPECIAL TEAMS

K	John Corbello (Fr., 0)	
P	26 Corey Gibbs (Sr., 1)	Donnie Jones (Fr., 0)
KR	7 Rondell Mealey (Sr., 3)	
PR	22 Larry Foster (Sr., 3)	

(#) Indicates number of returning starters
***BOLD** indicates returning starters*
NUMBER after class indicates letters won

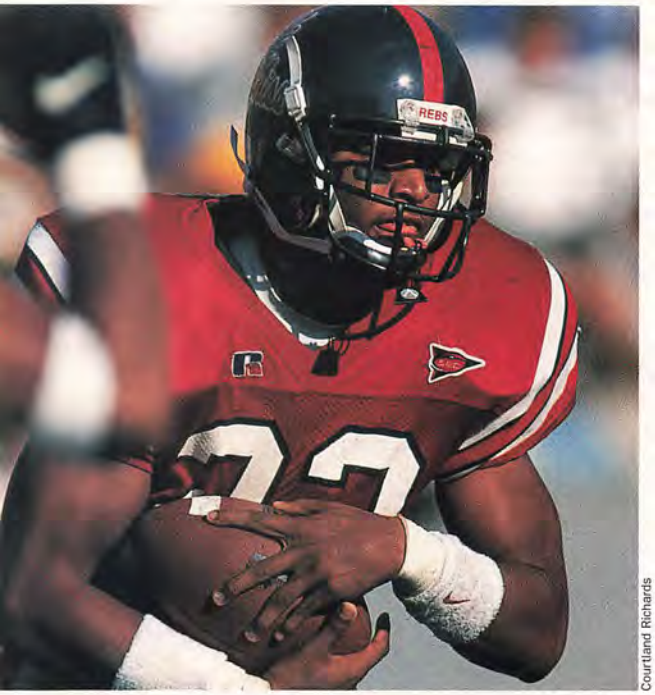
Head Coach: Gerry DiNardo — **1998 Record (SEC): 4–7 (2–4)**
1999 Prediction: 3rd SEC West — **Tiger Stadium (80,000)**

Ole Miss Rebels

33

The Ole Miss Rebels were the final Southeastern Conference team picked for a bowl the past two years. With 17 returning starters, they expect to be much better than a bowl bubble team this time around.

Tommy Tuberville has moved on to Auburn, and longtime Tennessee assistant David Cutcliffe is in as the new Rebels' head coach. It isn't as though Cutcliffe is faced with a bare cupboard.



Courtland Richards

Deuce McAllister

The Rebels may have provided a sneak preview of coming attractions last Dec. 31 in the Independence Bowl, when they ran away from Texas Tech 35–18 despite the tumultuous transition from one coaching staff to another.

11,293 The average home football attendance increase for Ole Miss in 1998. The jump was made possible by the expansion of Vaught-Hemingway Stadium. The increase was the fifth-largest in the nation.

During bowl practices, Cutcliffe and his new batch of assistants identified players by taping names on their helmets. Who knows what might happen with a little more familiarity between teachers and pupils?

Romaro Miller, firmly entrenched as one of the dynamic young quarterbacks in the SEC, threw for 2,273 yards and 11 touchdowns last year despite missing the regular season finale with a cracked right collarbone. Arm strength and quick feet make Miller the Ole Miss answer to Georgia's Quincy Carter.

The big question: Who's No. 2? Don't be surprised if heralded incoming freshman Eli Manning winds up as the backup rather than taking a redshirt season.

Deuce McAllister, the fourth-leading rusher in the SEC last year, is ready to rumble again. The burly power runner had 837 of his 1,082 yards in the final six games last season. Joe Gunn adds a different dimension with his shiftiness and cutback ability. Sophomore Charles Stackhouse is a physical blocker and runner.

Flanker Cory Peterson and split end Grant Heard have been integral parts of the Rebel attack in the back-to-back bowl seasons. Sure-handed flanker Cory Peterson caught 41 passes for 601 yards a year ago; split end Grant Heard grabbed 40 for 559 yards. Tight end is a major concern with the loss of All-American Rufus French. Adam Bettis and redshirt freshman Doug Zeigler will try to make Rebel fans forget about French.

The Rebels are losing Matt Luke, leaving the next center with some awfully big shoes to fill. But the remainder of the offensive line looks extremely promising, with guards Terrence Metcalf and Keydrick Vincent and tackles Todd Wade and Tutan Reyes. If Metcalf comes back at full speed from a broken ankle, he could emerge as an All-SEC candidate. Remember, this is a line which completely neutralized All-America defensive linemen such as LSU's Anthony McFarland and Texas Tech's Montae Reagor. If the answer is found at center, it could blossom into one of the nation's best.

The Rebels may have found a leader on the defensive line in the Independence Bowl when tackle Kendrick Clancy decimated the Red Raiders and earned defensive MVP honors. Players such as Michael Boone, Comone Fisher, Tyler Williams and Shane Elam will try to step up and be counted on as well. Ends Derrick Burgess and Antionne Scott, who sat out spring drills after surgery rehabilitations, could be key additions if they come back strong in the fall.

All three starters return at linebacker. The trio of Armegis Spearman, Eddie Strong and Ronnie Heard appears to be a team strength. Look for Strong, the former *Parade* All-American, to develop into an SEC star. Spearman, a Butkus Award nominee last year, will be counted on for some heavy hitting and senior leadership. Heard plays all over the field and has the ability to get to the quarterback.

Senior Timothy Strickland is an excellent cover corner. The other three secondary spots could be up for grabs. Anthony Magee had three interceptions last year while alternating between free safety and strong safety. Justin Coleman, Kenny Woods and Ken Lucas — who will also be used at wide receiver — also figure into the mix. The x-factor is talented free safety Syniker Taylor, who suffered a broken left fibula last Nov. 4. Taylor has great speed and closing ability.

Les Binkley, a juco All-America placekicker, could be a major addition. Punter Reagan King was inconsistent last year (38.3 average), but has the leg strength to blossom into one of the league's best.

Depth Chart

OFFENSE (8)

SE	88	**Grant Heard (Sr., 3)**	7	Jamie Armstrong (So., 1)
LT	76	**Tutan Reyes (Sr., 3)**	77	Matt Koon (So., 0)
LG	79	Terrence Metcalf (So., 1)	72	John McGarvey (So., 1)
C	67	Charlie Perkins (Jr., 2)	55	Ben Claxton (Fr., 0)
RG	73	**Keydrick Vincent (Jr., 2)**	68	Shane Grice (Jr., 1)
RT	71	**Todd Wade (Sr., 3)**	65	John Keith (So., 1)
TE	81	Adam Bettis (Sr., 3)	89	Doug Zeigler (Fr., 0)
QB	11	**Romaro Miller (Jr., 2)**	15	David Morris (So., 1)
FB	45	Charles Stackhouse (So., 1)	6	Toward Sanford (Fr., 0)
RB	22	**Deuce McAllister (Jr., 2)**	28	**Joe Gunn (So., 1)**
FL	85	**Cory Peterson (Sr., 3)**	86	Sheldon Morris (Sr., 2)

DEFENSE (9)

LE	56	**Derrick Burgess (Jr., 2)**	98	Yahrek Johnson (Fr., 0)
LT	96	**Kendrick Clancy (Sr., 1)**	84	**Comone Fisher (Sr., 3)**
RT	92	Tyler Williams (Sr., 1)	62	Michael Boone (Sr., 3)
RE	59	Shane Elam (Jr., 1)	43	Antionne Scott (Jr., 2)
LB	38	**Ronnie Heard (Sr., 3)**	46	Amzie Williams (Jr., 2)
LB	4	**Armegis Spearman (Sr., 3)**	44	Chad Cook (Jr., 2)
LB	1	**Eddie Strong (So., 1)**	80	Al Rice (Sr., 3)
LC	21	Justin Coleman (So., 1)	24	Ken Lucas (Jr., 2)
RC	3	**Timothy Strickland (Sr., 3)**	31	Desmon Johnson (Fr., 0)
SS	12	**Kenny Woods (Sr., 1)**	39	Kevin Thomas (So., 1)
FS	27	**Anthony Magee (Jr., 2)**	8	Darius Tate (Fr., 0)

SPECIAL TEAMS

K	97	Carlisle McGee (Sr., 1)
P	16	Reagan King (Jr., 2)
KR	24	Ken Lucas (Jr., 2)
PR	85	Cory Peterson (Sr., 3)

(#) Indicates number of returning starters
***BOLD** indicates returning starters*
NUMBER after class indicates letters won

Head Coach: David Cutcliffe **1998 Record (SEC): 7–5 (3–5)**
1999 Prediction: 4th SEC West **Vaught-Hemingway Stadium (50,577)**

West Virginia Mountaineers

34

Don Nehlen, phone in hand and patience in mind, spoke about one of the most intricate and challenging construction jobs ever to be undertaken in the Mountain State. Losing 17 lettermen and 13 starters from the 8–4 team that played in the Insight.com Bowl, the West Virginia head coach breaks ground this season with a whole new crew. Nehlen has built his 20th Mountaineer team with basics, all the while understanding that expectations should be kept on a realistic level.

Richard Carioti

Marc Bulger

81 The Mountaineers flexed their muscles on Nov. 14 when they ran an eye-popping 81 offensive plays in a 28–14 win at Rutgers.

Running back Amos Zereoue, the Mountaineers' all-time leading rusher with 4,086 yards, elected to bypass his senior year to try his hand at the NFL. But Nehlen will guide the 1999 squad with one of the Big East's best guns, senior quarterback Marc Bulger.

Bulger is a third-year starter who holds nearly every West Virginia passing and total offense record (19 in all). In addition to impressive '98 numbers (3,178 passing yards and 27 scores), the 6'3" Bulger brings leadership and a cool composure to an offense that will sorely need his steadying influence.

Having Bulger around should make the development of a new first-string running back a little easier. Among the ball carriers who will get work during the season are senior Alvin Swoope, sophomore transfer Cooper Rego, sophomore Brannon Goins and redshirt freshmen Lewis Daniels and Avon Cobourne.

Losing David Saunders and Shawn Foreman at the receiving positions doesn't mean that the Mountaineers lack talent there.

Senior Khori Ivy takes over Saunders' lead-receiver roles. He has started 12 games over the last two years, displaying an uncanny knack for highlight-reel receptions. Senior Pat Greene will be expected to do some of the extras, like block and play occasionally on special teams.

Senior tight end Anthony Becht earned All-Big East honors by catching 29 passes for 393 yards and throwing some hurt around on his blocks.

Junior tackle Tanner Russell will work overtime as the only offensive lineman who returns with any substantial experience. Russell, health permitting, will likely play every snap of the season. The rest of the line will assume a process of mixing and matching during the early season until the staff settles on the best possible combination. Freshman guard Ken Sandor is a safe bet for the starting lineup. In the middle, centers John Conte and Mike Enick are both upperclassmen who have spent time learning the ropes. Juniors Matt Wilson and Rick Gilliam get first call at tackle and guard respectively.

The losses along the defensive front were devastating as well. Among the returnees, ends Antwan Lake and Ryan Brady and tackle Greg Robinette have the most experience. Osa Nosa saw spot duty as a true freshman tackle last fall.

All-conference performer Barrett Green leads an improving group at linebacker. With 142 tackles and countless other big plays, Green packs plenty of punch at his weak side spot. He had 14 tackles in the bowl loss to Missouri, despite playing most of the game with a cracked rib. Sophomore Kyle Kayden returns to his starting role at middle linebacker, while junior Chris Edmonds is a second-year starter on the strong side. Kayden is still viewed as an up-and-comer and could be on the verge of stardom.

West Virginia's secondary is the most experienced unit in this year of starting over. Seniors Gary Thompkins (strong safety), Scooter Davis (short corner), Jerry Porter (free safety) and Perlo Bastien (wide corner) each have been starters. Coming back from a redshirt season (dislocated clavicle) is senior cornerback Nate Terry, an all-conference pick in 1997, while promising young safety Rick Sherrod should be ready after a year-long knee rehabilitation. Chances are that Terry will get his starting job back at one corner, with Davis providing backup. Terry, at 6'2", can cover the league's lanky receivers.

Punter/placekicker Jay Taylor needs to be more consistent in '99. Taylor, who sustained a hip flexor strain midway through the season, was 9-of-13 on field-goal attempts but averaged only 39.9 on 48 punts.

The return game is in good hands with sophomore Antonio Brown. He wreaked havoc on both punt (9.4 average) and kickoff returns (20.1) last year.

Depth Chart

OFFENSE (4)

SE	**8 Khori Ivy (Sr., 2)**	5 Antonio Brown (So., 1)
LT	71 Matt Wilson (Jr., 1)	67 Lance Nimmo (Fr., 0)
LG	60 Ken Sandor (Fr., 0)	72 Terry Dixon (Jr., 0)
C	76 John Conte (Sr., 1)	64 Mike Enick (Jr., 0)
RG	59 Rick Gilliam (Jr., 2)	73 Jeremy Sherman (So., 0)
RT	79 Tanner Russell (Jr., 1)	75 Brad Knell (So., 0)
TE	**82 Anthony Becht (Sr., 3)**	81 Sean Berton (Fr., 0)
FL	21 Pat Greene (Sr., 2)	80 Carlos Osegueda (Jr., 2)
QB	**4 Marc Bulger (Sr., 2)**	14 Brad Lewis (So., 0)
FB	**49 Anthony Green (Sr., 3)**	46 Mark Plants (Sr., 3)
TB	9 Alvin Swoope (Sr., 2)	29 Cooper Rego (So., 0)

DEFENSE (6)

DE	87 Antwan Lake (Jr., 1)	43 Ryan Brady (Sr., 2)
DT	99 Greg Robinette (Sr., 1)	92 William Perry (Fr., 0)
DT	78 Osa Nosa (So. 0)	92 William Perry (Fr., 0)
LB	48 Mark Thurston (So., 1)	43 Kevin Freeman (Fr., 0)
LB	**41 Chris Edmonds (Jr., 2)**	56 Craig Pfaff (So., 0)
LB	**45 Kyle Kayden (So., 1)**	34 Corey McIntyre (Jr., 0)
LB	**33 Barrett Green (Sr., 3)**	38 K.C. Schiller (Sr., 2)
CB	3 Perlo Bastien (Sr., 3)	22 Richard Bryant (So., 0)
CB	28 Nate Terry (Sr., 2)	**23 Scooter Davis (Sr., 1)**
SS	**11 Gary Thompkins (Sr., 2)**	19 Boo Sensabaugh (Sr., 2)
FS	**2 Jerry Porter (Sr., 2)**	27 Rick Sherrod (So., 0)

SPECIAL TEAMS

K	47 Jay Taylor (Sr., 3)
P	15 Zach Anglin (So., 1)
KR	5 Antonio Brown (So., 1)
PR	9 Alvin Swoope (Sr., 2)

(#) Indicates number of returning starters
***BOLD** indicates returning starters*
NUMBER after class indicates letters won

Head Coach: Don Nehlen **1998 Record (Big East): 8–4 (5–2)**
1999 Prediction: 4th Big East **Mountaineer Field (63,500)**

Southern Miss Golden Eagles

35

Now that Tulane has lost quarterback Shaun King and coach Tommy Bowden, the door is open for Southern Miss to contend once again for the Conference USA title. Coach Jeff Bower's '98 club got off to an 0–2 start for the first time since 1976 but finished with a winning record for the fifth consecutive year. Then the campaign ended with a thud in the Humanitarian Bowl and a humbling 42–35 loss to Idaho. But Bower can find a lesson in the setback — namely, not to take anything for granted. "It teaches you respect for your opponents," he says. "And to go about your business with more intensity than we did."

Al Kooistra

Sherrod Gideon

.882

Southern Miss' all-time winning percentage in Conference USA, with a record of 15–2.

Southern Miss will be armed with 12 returning starters — four on offense, eight on defense — including 1998 C-USA Defensive Player of the Year Adalius Thomas at defensive end and conference Freshman of the Year Derrick Nix at running back. The challenges for Bower are to rebuild the offensive line and locate a new quarterback.

"It's wide open," Bower says of the quarterback situation after the graduation of Lee Roberts. The top two candidates are Jeff Kelly and junior college transfer Cable Davis. Kelly completed half his throws in limited action as Roberts' backup in '98. He is a superb athlete and has been described as a "coach on the field." Davis, who threw for more than 4,800 yards and 47 touchdowns at Butte (Calif.) Community College, is giving Kelly a run for the starting job.

Nix blew into Hattiesburg like a tornado, rushing for 1,180 yards and nine touchdowns. He was the only true freshman among the nation's top 50 ball carriers and finished as the leading rusher in Conference USA despite not entering the starting lineup until midseason. As a starter, he averaged 146.3 rushing yards per game.

The three players who were listed ahead of Nix on the 1998 season-opening depth chart — Dawayne Woods, Brandon Francis and Kelby Nance — also return after finishing 2-3-4 on the team in rushing.

Sherrod Gideon returns in possession of every Southern Miss receiving record. In '98, he caught 66 passes for 1,186 yards and 13 touchdowns, averaged 18 yards per catch and led C-USA with 108 receiving yards per game.

Gideon and Todd Pinkston form the most prolific pass-catching duo in school history. Dannye Fowler and Shawn Mills are all available at the flanker position in Bower's three-wideout attack. Raymond Walls has been moved to defensive back.

In the Southern Miss scheme, tight ends are used almost exclusively as blockers. Buck Miciotto, Orlando Dantzler and Kendrick Key are essentially third tackles who will work by committee.

Guard Shederick Blackmon is the cornerstone of an otherwise brand-new offensive line and is a 325-pound spark plug. Ernie Moore, who started some at tight end, will now line up at tackle and will be backed up by Jeremy Bridges. Tré Chambers moves up at strong-side guard next to Zeb Landers at center.

The defensive line returns intact two-deep. Bandit end Thomas finished the campaign atop the conference in tackles for loss with 20 for minus-121 yards and was selected first-team All-America by the coaches. At the other end is Cedric Scott, who had 66 tackles and 9.5 sacks.

Tackle John Nix and nose tackle DeQuincy Scott take away the inside running game. And all four of last year's backups return with lots of game action under their belts.

The top two tacklers from last year's team return at linebacker in T.J. Slaughter and Ty Trahan, both of whom were named first-team All-C-USA. Roy Magee, a part-time starter in '98, takes over full-time at outside linebacker. And the linebacker corps, like the front four, is brimming with experienced depth.

Strong safety Leo Barnes and cornerback Terrance Parrish return after combining for five interceptions and 17 pass breakups last year. Keon Moore is battle-tested and ready at the field corner, although he could be replaced by converted receiver Walls. Joey Pinkston takes over at free safety, where converted linebacker David Verdell is getting a look.

Consistent punter Jamie Purser owns a career 40.8-yard average. Brant Hanna is now the full-time placekicker. Backup running back Brandon Francis averaged a sparkling 23.6 yards on 19 kickoff returns, and the new punt returner may be Gideon.

Depth Chart

OFFENSE (4)

WR	11	**Sherrod Gideon (Sr., 3)**	1	John Floyd (Fr., 0)
LT	77	Ernie Moore (So., 1)	73	Jeremy Bridges (Fr., 0)
LG	70	**Shederick Blackmon (Sr., 3)**	72	Dan Reber (Fr., 0)
C	67	Zeb Landers (Fr., 0)	63	Dennis Evans (Jr., 0)
RG	66	Tré Chambers (So., 1)	76	Torrin Tucker (Fr., 0)
RT	55	Billy Clay (Jr., 0)	79	Brian Bell (Sr., 1)
TE	84	Orlando Dantzler (So., 1)	88	Buck Miciotto (Fr., 0)
QB	17	Jeff Kelly (So., 1)	7	Cable Davis (Jr., 0)
RB	43	**Derrick Nix (So., 1)**	22	Dawayne Woods (So., 1)
FL	81	Dannye Fowler (So., 1)	83	Shawn Mills (Jr., 0)
WR	80	**Todd Pinkston (Sr., 3)**	82	LeRoy Handy (Fr., 0)

DEFENSE (8)

DE	96	**Cedric Scott (Jr., 2)**	41	Deric Scott (Jr., 2)
NT	78	**DeQuincy Scott (Jr., 2)**	93	Gerald Mumford (Jr., 2)
DT	98	**John Nix (Jr., 2)**	90	Daleroy Stewart (Jr., 2)
DE	97	**Adalius Thomas (Sr., 3)**	47	Marvin Brown (Sr., 3)
LB	16	**Ty Trahan (Sr., 3)**	39	Anthony Chapman (Jr., 1)
LB	34	**T.J. Slaughter (Sr., 4)**	46	Royal Bell (Sr., 3)
LB	25	Roy Magee (So., 1)	38	Zaid Houston (Jr., 2)
CB	19	Raymond Walls (Jr., 2)	21	Keon Moore (Jr., 1)
CB	24	**Terrance Parrish (Sr., 3)**	27	Byron Gill (Jr., 1)
SS	20	**Leo Barnes (Jr., 2)**	12	Daryon Brutley (So., 1)
FS	3	Joey Pinkston (Jr., 0)	31	David Verdell (Jr., 2)

SPECIAL TEAMS

K	37	Brant Hanna (So., 1)
P	18	Jamie Purser (Sr., 3)
KR	35	Brandon Francis (Sr., 3)
PR	11	Sherrod Gideon (Sr., 3)

(#) Indicates number of returning starters
***BOLD** indicates returning starters*
NUMBER after class indicates letters won

Head Coach: Jeff Bower — 1998 Record (C-USA): 7-5 (5-1)
1999 Prediction: 2nd C-USA — M.M. Roberts (33,000)

Marshall Thundering Herd

36

Marshall is fast becoming to the MAC what Florida State is to ACC football — the new standard. And as with the ACC, the bully on the block is the new kid. The Thundering Herd is 22–4 since moving to Division I-A and joining the MAC in 1997. Last season, Marshall capped a 12–1 campaign with a MAC Championship — its second in a row — and a 48-29 win over Louisville in the Motor City Bowl. Only defending national champion Tennessee has won more games (24) the last two years than the Herd. Counting their years at the I-AA level, Marshall has 101 wins in the '90s, most of any school in Division I.

Rick Haye

Chad Pennington

The Herd appears poised to add significantly to that figure. All but three starters are back (10 of 11 on defense) and eight returnees were named either first- or second-team All-MAC last year.

.902 Marshall coach Bob Pruett's winning percentage at the school since replacing Jim Donnan after the 1995 season.

Quarterback Chad Pennington is the only one of 10 finalists for the Davey O'Brien Award, given to the top quarterback in the nation, to return to school. He'll be in the mix again. The 6'3" senior already has the MAC career record for touchdown passes (63) despite playing in the league for just two seasons.

Pennington led the MAC in passing touchdowns (24), efficiency (146.2) and passing yards (3,419), then threw for 411 yards and four TDs in the Motor City Bowl. He's tallied more than 10,000 career passing yards and has a winning percentage of .850 (34-6).

Running back Doug Chapman (1,184 rushing yards, 15 TDs last year) is vying to become the first Marshall player to rush for more than 1,000 yards in each of his four seasons. Backup Llow Turner ran for a team-high 94 yards in the Motor City Bowl.

Pennington will miss LaVorn Colclough and Jerraldo Long, but the returning wideouts are big and capable.

Senior Nate Poole (6'3", 185) caught 48 balls for 616 yards last year while junior John Cooper (6'5", 200) had 33 for 407. James Williams will push for more time after catching two touchdowns against Louisville in the bowl game.

Marshall coach Bob Pruett is counting on Gregg Kellett to win the starting tight end job. Kellett snared 13 balls for 182 yards last year and had a 59-yard catch in the Motor City Bowl.

The Herd's offensive line is intact with the exception of right tackle, where graduated Jamie Rodgers' spot is expected to be filled by juco transfer James Simon, a 6'6", 310-pound tackle out of Fresno (Calif.) City College. His old coach, Van Staley, thinks Simon would be a great fit on the Marshall line. "James has great feet," he says. "He's a pure pass blocker." Simon joins a formidable front that includes All-MAC tackle Mike Guilliams, junior Chris Scheuch at guard; and center Jason Starkey, a second-team All-MAC pick last year.

Marshall's defense could kick it up another notch with 10 starters back from a unit that forced 29 takeways (12 fumbles, 17 interceptions), most in the MAC. The Herd were second in total defense (317.6 yards per game) to Miami.

Fifteen of Marshall's 16 top tacklers from last year are back. The only defense hole to fill is at the nose guard, where juco transfer Steve Content is first in line to take over for the departed Ricky Hall. He'll line up next to All-league tackle Giradie Mercer, who had 16 tackles for losses and four sacks last year. End Ron Puggi, a 6'4" specimen, is another honors candidate coming off a year in which he had five sacks and five passes broken up.

Outside linebacker John Grace led the team in tackles last year with 143, including 15 for losses. Middle linebacker Max Yates missed six games with a broken ankle but still finished with 55 stops, 33 of them solo. Senior Andre O'Neal mans the other outside linebacker spot, while Trod Buggs and George Miller provide excellent depth.

Senior safety Rogers Beckett is a ballhawk, last year finishing second on the team in tackles (118) and interceptions (3). Pruett loves the big-play ability of cornerbacks Daninelle Derricott and Maurice Hines. Derricott had six picks and ran a fumble back for a touchdown in the MAC Championship win over Toledo.

James Williams returned kickoffs last year, but will likely give way to Poole as the featured returner. Senior kicker Billy Malashevich was 16-of-23 in 1998. A punter has not been found yet.

Depth Chart

OFFENSE (9)

WR	9	Lanier Washington (Jr., 1)	25	Brad Weldon (Jr., 2)
LT	**63**	**Mike Guilliams (Sr., 3)**	73	Scott Harper (Jr., 0)
LG	**79**	**Chris Scheuch (Jr.,2)**	66	K.J. Greer (Fr., 0)
C	**62**	**Jason Starkey (Sr., 3)**	67	Shaun Saunders (Sr., 2)
RG	**72**	**Jimmy Cabellos (Jr., 2)**	69	Irv Dotson (Sr., 2)
RT		James Simon (Jr., 0)	75	Steve Sciullo (Fr., 0)
TE	**38**	**Gregg Kellett (So., 1)**	44	Brad Hammon (Sr., 2)
QB	**10**	**Chad Pennington (Sr., 3)**	7	Byron Leftwich (So., 1)
TB	**22**	**Doug Chapman (Sr., 3)**	32	Llow Turner (Sr., 3)
WR	**3**	**Nate Poole (Sr., 2)**	37	David Foye (Jr., 1)
WR	83	James Williams (Sr., 1)	**82**	**John Cooper (Jr., 2)**

DEFENSE (10)

DE	**98**	**Ron Puggi (Sr., 3)**	53	Ralph Street (Jr., 1)
DT	**93**	**Giradie Mercer (Sr., 3)**	99	Dewayne Lewis (Sr., 3)
DT		Steve Content (Jr., 0)	**60**	**Jimmy Parker (Jr., 2)**
DE	97	Carlos Smith (Sr., 2)	85	Paul Toviessi (Jr., 2)
LB	**55**	**Andre O'Neal (Sr., 3)**	90	George Miller (Jr., 2)
LB	**5**	**Max Yates (So., 1)**	59	Trod Buggs (So., 1)
LB	**4**	**John Grace (Sr., 3)**	57	Alonzo Jones (Jr., 1)
CB	**1**	**Maurice Hines (Jr., 2)**	19	Chris Crocker (Fr., 0)
CB	**8**	**Danny Derricott (Jr., 2)**	29	Fardan Carter (So., 1)
SS	**30**	**Doug Hodges (Jr., 2)**	31	Michael Owens (So., 1)
FS	**42**	**Rogers Beckett (Sr., 3)**	33	Larry Davis (So., 1)

SPECIAL TEAMS

K	49	Billy Malashevich (Sr., 2)
P		
KR	3	Nate Poole (Sr., 2)
PR	3	Nate Poole (Sr., 2)

(#) Indicates number of returning starters
***BOLD** indicates returning starters*
NUMBER after class indicates letters won

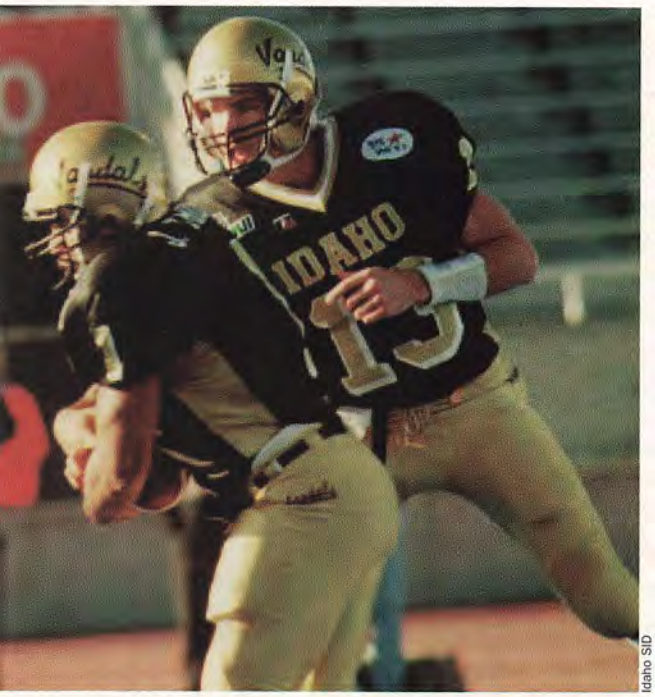
Head Coach: Bob Pruett — **1998 Record (MAC): 12–1 (7–1)**
1999 Prediction: 1st MAC East — **Marshall Stadium (30,000)**

Idaho Vandals

37

It could be a bittersweet season for the Vandals. With a solid team coming back from a 9–3 (4–1 in the Big West) conference championship season, another one like it could very well seal the end of coach Chris Tormey's tenure at his alma mater.

Tormey unsuccessfully interviewed for the Washington and Oregon State jobs during the off-season. The former Washington assistant has turned the former Division I-AA Vandals into a nice I-A outfit quickly. Another good season should have him following former Big West coaches John L. Smith, now at Louisville, and Houston Nutt, who managed to turn Arkansas around in one season, to a higher profile position.



Idaho SID

John Welsh

"Neither one (of those jobs) worked out," Tormey says. "They were not meant to be. This is my alma mater. We like it here."

23.5 The average yards per kickoff return by the Vandals in 1998, good enough for a 12th-place ranking in Division I-A.

This season marks the first time in its four-year Division I-A status that Idaho has a full complement of 85 scholarships, a key component for developing depth in a conference known for shallow rosters.

While Idaho returns 10 players to its offensive unit, the one it won't return is a big one. Joel Thomas, the school's all-time leading rusher and the conference's co-Offensive Player of the Year who gained 1,229 yards and scored 16 touchdowns, will pass down the rushing duties to Anthony Tenner and Michael Moody. The good news is that both Tenner and Moody showed promise. Tenner averaged 5.1 yards per carry and Moody averaged 4.6, both in limited roles.

Neither rusher will be asked to carry Tormey's one-back offense. That will be the responsibility of returning quarterback John Welsh. In traditional Vandal quarterback style, Welsh can drop back and let it rip. The sophomore split time with senior Greg Robertson and won the job with high-output performances late in the season. Welsh, the Humanitarian Bowl MVP, completed 53.8 percent of his passes for 1,387 yards. Tormey can also depend on Robertson, who put up similar passing statistics.

Welsh and and his backfield mates should have plenty of help up front from a young group of offensive linemen who learned on the job. All five starters return, and several injured players who started at some point last year also return. Expected starters are junior left tackle Rick DeMulling, junior center Jeremy Wallace, junior right tackle Patrick Venzke, sophomore right guard Anthony Fuertes and senior left guard Cleve Aiono. Sophomore Glenn Vaagen and junior Brett Morton add quality depth.

Idaho's receiving corp adds to an already formidable attack. Welsh has an impressive group of veterans to throw to, highlighted by senior Ryan Prestimonico, who caught 42 passes for 668 yards and six touchdowns. Also in the mix of about "ten receivers we like," according to Tormey, are sophomore Ethan Jones and junior Willie Alderson. Tight end Mike Roberg turned into an anchor at the position. At 6'4", 260, he is a formidable blocker with soft hands.

Idaho's defense reads the same way with eight starters back in the fold. The line is slightly altered with the graduation of Nick Alexakos and the likely move of James Durrough to linebacker. However, the stalwarts are in place with sophomore Wil Beck and 6'6", 290-pound senior Mao Tosi manning the tackle positions, and sophomore Ryan Knowles at end.

Linebacker should be locked and loaded for the Vandals with Chris Nofoaiga returning to his familiar outside spot. Nofoaiga led the team with 11 sacks and 12 tackles for loss and was Idaho's second-leading tackler (82). Matt Jasik also returns to the outside with Durrough possibly filling the middle.

Only one starter is gone from the secondary, but the unit allowed more than 250 yards per game. Free safety Bryson Gardner, the team leader with four interceptions, is moving to strong safety with Brad Rice, Ed Rankin and former running back Jordan Kramer the possibilities at free safety. Dennis Gibbs starts at left cornerback. At right cornerback, Tormey will make a decision between Andrew Uto-Uko and Ighe Evero.

Kicker Ben Davis holds the national junior college field-goal record of 62 yards and is second on the Idaho all-time list with a 55-yarder he booted at North Texas. Punting isn't so simple. With Mike O'Neal graduated, it's a battle between backup receiver Jesse Taylor, Kyle Lucas, Jeremy Fitzgerald and Bert Sims.

Depth Chart

OFFENSE (10)

WR	**21**	**Ryan Prestimonico (Sr., 2)**	15	Jeffrey Townsley (Jr., 2)
LT	**69**	**Rick DeMulling (Jr., 2)**	66	Brett Morton (Jr., 2)
LG	**75**	**Cleve Aiono (Sr., 2)**	63	Glenn Vaagen (So., 1)
C	**52**	**Jeremy Wallace (Jr., 2)**	61	Anthony Fuertes (So., 1)
RG	**61**	**Anthony Fuertes (So., 1)**	70	Brian Smith (Sr., 0)
RT	**60**	**Patrick Venzke (Jr., 2)**	66	Brett Morton (Jr., 2)
TE	**86**	**Mike Roberg (So., 2)**	85	Travis Stombaugh (Sr., 2)
QB	**13**	**John Welsh (So., 1)**	4	Greg Robertson (Sr., 1)
TB	11	Michael Moody (Sr., 1)	2	Anthony Tenner (Jr., 2)
WR	**80**	**Ethan Jones (So., 1)**	3	Chris Lacy (So., 1)
WR	**20**	**Willie Alderson (Jr., 2)**	25	Bobby Grey (Jr., 2)

DEFENSE (8)

LE	**50**	**Ryan Knowles (So., 1)**	55	Charles Kinney (So., 1)
LT	**98**	**Mao Tosi (Sr., 1)**	88	Jake Wimer (Jr., 1)
RT	**91**	**Wil Beck (So., 1)**	71	Drew Owen (So., 1)
RE	96	Dennis Taeatafa (So., 1)	97	Matt Kramer (Sr., 0)
LB	**38**	**Chris Nofoaiga (Jr., 2)**	26	Rick Giampietri (Jr., 2)
LB	40	James Durrough (Sr., 3)	51	Casey Kuchenbuch (So., 1)
LB	**35**	**Matt Jasik (Sr., 3)**	45	Casey Hills (Jr., 2)
LC	**22**	**Dennis Gibbs (Jr., 2)**	24	Husan Smith (So., 1)
RC	**30**	**Ighe Evero (So., 1)**	5	Andrew Uto-Uko (Sr., 1)
SS	**10**	**Bryson Gardner (Sr., 3)**	14	Ed Rankin (Fr., 0)
FS	18	Brad Rice (So., 1)	43	Jordan Kramer (Fr., 0)

SPECIAL TEAMS

K	33	Ben Davis (Jr., 1)
P	17	Jesse Taylor (Sr., 1)
KR	3	Chris Lacy (So., 1)
PR	36	Vern Bernard (Jr., 1)

(#) Indicates number of returning starters
***BOLD** indicates returning starters*
NUMBER after class indicates letters won

Head Coach: Chris Tormey — 1998 Record (Big West): 9–3 (4–1)
1999 Prediction: 1st Big West — Martin Stadium (37,600)

Western Michigan Broncos

38

A year after the greatest single-season turnaround in major college football, Western Michigan proved it wasn't a one-year wonder. A 7–4 campaign gave the Broncos 15 victories in two seasons, most of any two-year period in school history. WMU won six of its last seven to finish in a tie for second in the MAC West.

Western Michigan SID

Jake Moreland

"(Last year) was a huge year that enabled us to take giant steps in building our program," says coach Gary Darnell, who in his third season has turned a perennial doormat into a title contender.

Now WMU finds out if it's ready to take the next step.

Tim Lester, the conference's second-best quarterback, is a senior now. Lester has been a paradigm for WMU's turnaround, growing up right along with the Broncos. The 6'1" quarterback, the MAC's Co-Freshman of the Year in 1996, last year threw for 3,311 yards and 22 touchdowns.

32.7 Points Western Michigan scored per game last year, best in the MAC.

Tailback Darnell Fields is gone after posting just the ninth 1,000-yard season in school history last year. Junior Robert Sanford, is ready to take over after running for 523 yards and four TDs in 10 games, and averaging 4.8 yards per carry. The 1997 MAC Freshman of the Year, Sanford is a hoss at 5'11", 223 pounds. He ran for 1,033 yards as a freshman fullback two years ago. Sophomore fullback Scott Selzer, a two-time letterman, is even bigger than Sanford (5'11", 231).

WMU's tight ends are serious threats. All-MAC candidate Jake Moreland is back. His 44 catches last year were the most by a WMU tight end since 1988.

Lester has two stellar options at wide receiver in senior Steve Neal and junior Corey Alston. Neal is coming off a breakout year at wide receiver in which he led the MAC in receptions (63), receiving yards (1,121) and touchdowns (seven). Alston's numbers dropped a little from 1997, but the 6'1" flanker averaged 21.9 yards per catch and snared four TDs. He also threw for two touchdowns. Darnell is looking for a viable third receiver to emerge out of a group that includes sophomores Darnell Jennings and Marco Wolverton, who played very little last year, Joshua Bush (14 catches and two TDs in '98) and Micah Zuhl (13 catches, 1 TD).

WMU brings experience back on the line, with senior tackle Charlie Knapp, a former guard, and junior guard Paul Lambert powering the weak side. Seniors Gary Nicklasch and Steve Wark anchor the other side.

The Broncos' defense fell appreciably off its 1997 statistics, placing in the lower half of the MAC in several key categories, including total defense (8th), pass defense efficiency (9th) and first downs allowed (9th).

The front four are all seniors. Ends Eric Bettys and Tom Rozema combined for six sacks and 12 stops for losses. Jeremy Johnson has to replace departed Dan Falcon's 10 tackles for loss at defensive tackle while John Deming played in just four games last year and will start the fall at nose guard.

WMU needs a young and athletic linebacking unit to build on the progress it made last year. Mario Evans and Garrett Soldano, both juniors, spent the spring contesting for the starting middle linebacker slot. Soldano led WMU in tackles last year (106) and racked up five tackles for loss; Evans emerged during the season, collecting 78 stops, nine tackles for loss and four sacks. Junior Jared Pike (57 tackles, six tackles for loss) is pencilled in at one outside linebacker slot; junior Scott Niles (56 tackles) mans the other.

Unlike with the linebackers, the Broncos paid for youth in their secondary last year. Opponents completed 57.4 percent of their passes, second worst in the MAC. Three out of the four returnees played significantly last year and the unit should benefit from the experience. Corners Ronald Rogers and Eric Nunlee took their lumps but finished with four interceptions each; strong safety William Reed is small (5'8") and really more of a third cornerback, but he did have two sacks to go along with two picks and three passes broken up.

Brad Selent is the placekicker. WMU is again going to have to break in a new punter, with freshmen Jason Hamilton and J.D. Brink vying for the job. Neal's a dangerous punt returner and Benny Clark and Charles Woods will be tried out returning kickoffs. Neal could be tried on kickoffs as well.

Depth Chart

OFFENSE (8)

SE	1	**Steve Neal (Sr., 2)**	88	Darnell Jennings (So., 1)
LT	69	**Charlie Knapp (Sr., 3)**	64	Jeff Hinson (So., 0)
LG	52	Paul Lambert (Jr., 2)	77	Terry Whitfield (Jr., 0)
C	61	Colin Greczek (So., 1)	67	Kevin Kramer (Fr., 0)
RG	62	**Gary Nicklasch (Sr., 1)**	60	Matt Stover (So., 1)
RT	79	**Steve Wark (Sr., 3)**	63	Matt Galbraith (Sr., 0)
TE	84	**Jake Moreland (Sr., 3)**	80	Frank Bosworth (Jr., 2)
QB	13	**Tim Lester (Sr., 3)**	12	Jeff Welsh (So., 1)
FB	48	Scott Selzer (So., 2)	30	William Henegan (Sr., 2)
TB	33	**Robert Sanford (Jr., 2)**	20	Benny Clark (So., 1)
FL	15	**Corey Alston (Sr., 2)**	81	Marco Wolverton (So., 1)

DEFENSE (7)

DE	89	Tom Rozema (Sr., 3)	58	Scott Karstens (Jr., 1)
DT	95	**Jeremy Johnson (Sr., 3)**	59	Marty Harig (Jr., 1)
DT	90	John Deming (Sr., 1)	92	Larry King (So., 0)
DE	35	**Eric Bettys (Sr., 2)**	97	Chris Browning (Fr., 0)
LB	53	**Jared Pike (Jr., 2)**	40	Terrence Moore (Jr., 1)
LB	50	**Mario Evans (Jr., 1)**	56	Garrett Soldano (Jr., 2)
LB	32	Scott Niles (Sr., 3)	46	Bryant Lape (So., 1)
CB	2	**Ronald Rogers (Jr., 1)**	26	Joe Ballard (So., 1)
CB	25	**Eric Nunlee (Sr., 3)**	10	Calvin Harley (Sr., 3)
SS	21	**William Reed (Sr., 3)**	29	Brandon Brown (So., 1)
FS	43	Carlos Smith (So., 1)	16	Wes Dodson (So., 1)

SPECIAL TEAMS

K	87	Brad Selent (Jr., 2)
P	41	Jason Hamilton (Fr., 0)
KR	20	Benny Clark (So., 1)
PR	1	Steve Neal (Sr., 2)

(#) Indicates number of returning starters
***BOLD** indicates returning starters*
NUMBER after class indicates letters won

Head Coach: Gary Darnell — **1998 Record (MAC): 7-4 (5-3)**
1999 Prediction: 1st MAC West — **Waldo Stadium (30,200)**

Oregon Ducks

39

For most programs, the departure of a quarterback like Akili Smith would be a reason to get down. The Oregon Ducks are talking about getting better.

Not necessarily on offense, where Smith was co-Pac 10 Player of the Year. But Oregon's recent history suggests that one of the nation's most prolific passing attacks will still put points on the board. And the Ducks expect to improve on defense.

Peter Brouillet

Reuben Droughns

"The amount of offense that walked out the door is staggering, but I like to think that we've been able to reload offensively," says Oregon coach Mike Bellotti.

> **5** Consecutive winning seasons for Oregon, the Ducks' longest streak since eight straight in the late 1920s and early '30s.

The duel at quarterback between junior A.J. Feeley and sophomore Joey Harrington will continue into fall practice.

Feeley has a stronger arm; Harrington is more elusive. Feeley got a taste of Pac-10 experience as a redshirt freshman two seasons ago and played well. Harrington was a blue-chip recruit out of high school but has thrown just one college pass.

"I'm excited," Bellotti says. "I think they both are competitors, they both want to be the guy, and they both have the intangibles."

In October, the Ducks lost tailback Reuben Droughns for the season with a serious leg injury. If Droughns is full-strength for his senior season — and he should be — then Oregon has one of the nation's best tailbacks. In five games, he rushed for 824 yards on 112 carries and nine scores. Behind Droughns, the Ducks have senior Derien Latimer, who doesn't have Droughns' speed or elusiveness, and sophomore Herman Ho-Ching.

The Ducks would like more productivity from their fullbacks, but that would take a breakthrough year from seniors Chris Young and Todd Brooks or junior Chad Chance.

With the graduation of Damon Griffin and Jed Weaver, the Ducks bid farewell to 97 catches. But Oregon returns a consummate go-to guy, Tony Hartley, at one wideout. The senior caught 48 passes for 1,015 yards and 10 touchdowns. Sophomore Bobby Nero is the leading candidate for the other wideout slot, battling redshirt Jason Jenkins. The Ducks sent their receivers a message by bringing in junior college transfer Marshaun Tucker and prep standout Keenan Howry.

At tight end, an intriguing candidate is junior LaCorey Collins, a former wide receiver. The 6'4" Collins was a *Parade* All-American in high school and the Gatorade Player of the Year in California.

Thanks to a solid line, Droughns rushed for 164.8 yards per game when healthy, and Smith was sacked just 26 times.

This year, the Ducks will be looking for a way to get their best five linemen on the field. That might mean moving senior center Deke Moen to left guard if sophomore Ryan Schmid is ready to start at center, or leaving Moen there if sophomore Jim Adams can step in at guard. Veterans Scott Fergus at right tackle and Josh Beckett at right guard could be the other starters. The role of left tackle could be filled by sophomore Al Cotton.

On defense, senior Terry Miller and junior Saul Patu, who notched five sacks apiece, are returning starters at end. The biggest question is at tackle, where there's hope for improvement from Caleb Smith or an impact from juco transfer James Rose. Zack Freiter, Oregon's strongest player, is out until mid-September with a knee injury.

The strength of the Oregon defense starts at linebacker. Peter Sirmon, who led the Pac-10 with 115 tackles in 1997, is back from injury. With Sirmon and quick outside linebacker Dietrich Moore, the Ducks have a strong, veteran senior duo. Starting in the middle is Royals farmhand Matt Smith, who has returned to football. He'll replace Aaron Cheuvront, forced by migraines to to give up football.

Oregon also lost cornerback Rashad Bauman, a junior, for the 1999 season to a knee injury. In his place, junior Tamoni Joiner is a leading veteran candidate to start, with jucos Jermaine Hanspard and Brian Johnson competing for jobs. Rover Michael Fletcher is Oregon's inspirational leader and one of the best punt and kick returners in the league. The free safety position is manned by a couple of seniors who have learned on the job, Brandon McLemore and Justin Wilcox.

Senior kicker Nathan Villegas converted 20-of-22 field goal attempts and all 57 conversion kicks. The Ducks graduated the Pac-10's best punter, Josh Bidwell; junior college transfer Kurtis Doerr will take his place.

Depth Chart

OFFENSE (6)

SE	15	Bobby Nero (So., 1)	18	Jason Jenkins (Fr., 0)
LT	78	Al Cotton (So., 1)	77	John Bello (So., 0)
LG	71	Jim Adams (So., 1)	75	Corey Chambers (Fr., 0)
C	**65**	**Deke Moen (Sr., 2)**	67	Ryan Schmid (So., 1)
RG	**53**	**Josh Beckett (Sr., 1)**	58	Mike Belisle (Fr., 0)
RT	**72**	**Scott Fergus (Sr., 1)**	77	John Bello (So., 0)
TE	8	LaCorey Collins (Jr., 1)	85	Danny Pulido (So., 1)
QB	7	A.J. Feeley (Jr., 0)	3	Joey Harrington (So., 0)
FB	**16**	**Chris Young (Sr., 2)**	36	Todd Brooks (Sr., 0)
TB	**22**	**Reuben Droughns (Sr., 1)**	6	Derien Latimer (Sr., 3)
FL	**2**	**Tony Hartley (Sr., 3)**	26	Ray Brust (Jr., 2)

DEFENSE (6)

DE	**38**	**Terry Miller (Sr., 2)**	99	Walker Templeton (Jr., 0)
DT	**56**	**Caleb Smith (Sr., 3)**	50	Jed Boice (Jr., 1)
DT	54	Zack Freiter (So., 1)		James Rose (Jr., 0)
DE	**48**	**Saul Patu (Jr., 2)**	98	Jason Nikolao (Jr., 2)
LB	44	Peter Sirmon (Sr., 3)	51	Tim Shear (So., 1)
LB	49	Matt Smith (Jr., 1)	93	Mike Callier (So., 0)
LB	**29**	**Dietrich Moore (Sr., 3)**	90	Nathan Naggi (Sr., 1)
CB	23	Tamoni Joiner (Jr., 2)	14	Steve Smith (So., 1)
CB	13	Brian Johnson (Jr., 0)	21	Jermaine Hanspard (Jr., 0)
SS	**1**	**Michael Fletcher (Sr., 3)**	3	Gary Barker (Jr., 2)
FS	**9**	**Brandon McLemore (Sr., 3)**	19	Justin Wilcox (Sr., 3)

SPECIAL TEAMS

K	27	Nathan Villegas (Sr., 1)
P	61	Kurtis Doerr (Jr., 0)
KR	1	Michael Fletcher (Sr., 3)
PR	1	Michael Fletcher (Sr., 3)

(#) Indicates number of returning starters
***BOLD** indicates returning starters*
NUMBER after class indicates letters won

Head Coach: Mike Bellotti — **1998 Record (Pac-10): 8-4 (5-3)**
1999 Prediction: 5th Pac-10 — **Autzen Stadium (41,698)**

Utah Utes

40

The occasion was a promotion for the Utah Summer Games, a multi-sport competition that has nothing to do with football. Utah coach Ron McBride was the featured speaker, and he could not help noticing the event's title: "kickoff luncheon."

McBride good-naturedly observed that he was the wrong person to be talking about anything involving the word "kick." That's the nature of a Ute off-season that is focused more than anything else on two missed kicks: an extra point in overtime at San Diego State and a field goal in the final seconds of a loss to BYU, costing Utah a bowl bid.

Peter Brouillet

Darnell Arceneaux

The Utes may or may not have solved their kicking troubles, but they do return enough weapons from the WAC's best offense of 1998 to make noise in the Mountain West Conference.

> The Utes were second-to-worst in the WAC in penalties and were flagged eight times a game for 65.5 yards.

Junior quarterback Darnell Arceneaux suffered a shoulder injury that kept him out of the last two games of '98 and limited him in the spring. "He improved a lot," says offensive coordinator Tommy Lee. "The biggest thing is keeping him healthy."

So while they like Arceneaux's playmaking skills and mobility, the Ute coaches recruited junior college transfer Tony Alvarez. Having played in a no-huddle, pass-oriented scheme at Palomar JC in California, Alvarez should provide insurance at the very least.

Running back Mike Anderson was forecast as the Utes' "rising star" before even arriving on campus last August as a junior college transfer, and he delivered. Anderson rushed for 1,173 yards and 12 touchdowns in 11 games. Senior Omar Bacon added 718 yards, giving the Utes nearly 2,000 yards from one position.

While Lee is looking for a sharper passing attack, he must find replacements for receivers Daniel Jones and Jerome Anderson, who posted big numbers. Senior slotback Donny Utu is the only returning player with double-figure receptions. Sophomore Clifford Russell and freshman Wayman Westbrooks played the outside positions in the spring, but the Utes need any of three junior college transfers — Johnny Lundy, Stevonne Smith and Dennis Smith — to come through in the fall.

Senior tight end Andy Kassotis is an outstanding blocker, and he and junior Matt Nickel combined for 16 catches.

Two All-Pacific Division second-team offensive linemen return: junior guard Sam White and senior tackle Josh Cochran. Senior guard Luis Park is also reliable, so the questions on the line involve junior center Steve McKane and sophomore tackle Doug Kaufusi. At a svelte 244 pounds, McKane may lack the size necessary to handle opposing nose guards. Size is certainly not a problem for the 300-pound Kaufusi, who comes from a family that has stocked BYU and Utah defensive lines.

Senior John Frank should thrive as the "open" end in Utah's 4–3 defense. Frank is a playmaker, as proven by his 10 sacks in 10 games last year. Junior Andy Bowers, similar athletically to Frank but less experienced, will try to fill in at the other end. Senior Chuck Pine is the rush end in Utah's nickel package. Junior Maake Kemoeatu is a more agile version of graduated second-team All-WAC performer Pene Talamaivao at nose guard. The tackle position's staffing is less certain, but junior Ed Ta'amu, freshman Garrett Smith and senior Richard Seals offer promise.

Junior rover Kautai Olevao returned from a church mission last August and became an all-division player. He's the centerpiece of the defense. Middle linebacker Taulia Lave played more in '97 than last year, but he's a strong leader. As the "stud" linebacker, redshirt freshman Sheldon Deckart lives up to that name with 4.5 speed.

Andre Dyson was inconsistent at cornerback but has talent, while sophomore Patrick Dyson, Andre's brother, thrived after his midseason move to defense. He will play free safety, while junior Kimball Christianson moves to strong safety. Two-year starter Teneil Ethridge is steady at right cornerback.

The possibilities for placekicker are junior college transfer Golden Whetman and freshman Justin Hamblin. Senior punter Chris Hunter is more dependable, having averaged 41.4 yards.The Dyson brothers will return punts, while Patrick Dyson — who had a kick return for a TD — and freshmen Desmond Davis and D'Shaun Crockett field kickoffs.

Depth Chart

OFFENSE (8)

WR	81	Wayman Westbrooks (Fr.,0)	23	Dennis Smith (Jr., 0)
LT	**59**	**Doug Kaufusi (So., 1)**	78	Joe McCullum (Jr., 0)
LG	**76**	**Luis Park (Sr., 1)**	77	Fisi Moleni (Sr., 3)
C	66	Steve McKane (Jr., 2)	56	Michael Richardson (So., 1)
RG	**50**	**Sam White (Jr., 2)**	3	Siuaki Livai (Fr., 0)
RT	**58**	**Josh Cochran (Sr., 3)**	61	Kevin Wilson (So., 0)
TE	**44**	**Andy Kassotis (Sr., 1)**	89	Matt Nickel (Jr., 2)
QB	**14**	**Darnell Arceneaux (Jr., 2)**	12	Tony Alvarez (Jr., 0)
SB	**25**	**Donny Utu (Sr., 3)**	9	Boo Bendinger (Sr., 3)
RB	**22**	**Mike Anderson (Sr., 1)**	24	Omar Bacon (Sr., 3)
WR	1	Clifford Russell (So., 1)	80	Johnny Lundy (Jr., 0)

DEFENSE (6)

DE	**93**	**John Frank (Sr., 3)**	60	Chuck Pine (Sr., 1)
DT	90	Ed Ta'amu (Jr., 1)	63	Garrett Smith (Fr., 0)
NG	98	Maake Kemoeatu (Jr., 1)	97	Lauvale Sape (So., 0)
DE	47	Andy Bowers (Jr., 2)	55	Ed Johnson (Jr., 0)
LB	**43**	**Kautai Olevao (Jr., 2)**	19	Howard Christianson (Jr., 1)
LB	85	Taulia Lave (Sr., 3)	12	Wes Tufaga (Jr., 2)
LB	54	Sheldon Deckart (Fr., 0)	88	Dylan Bird (Fr., 0)
CB	**30**	**Teneil Ethridge (Sr., 3)**	26	Jeff Ray (Jr., 0)
CB	**21**	**Andre Dyson (Jr., 2)**	**5**	**Jay Hill (Sr., 1)**
SS	**10**	**Kimball Christianson (Jr., 2)**	45	Jason Potter (Jr., 1)
FS	4	Patrick Dyson (So., 1)	13	Colby Knight (Sr., 2)

SPECIAL TEAMS

K		Golden Whitman (Jr., 0)	Justin Hamblin (Fr., 0)
P	86	Chris Hunter (Sr., 3)	
KR	4	Patrick Dyson (So., 1)	
PR	4	Patrick Dyson (So., 1)	

(#) Indicates number of returning starters
***BOLD** indicates returning starters*
NUMBER after class indicates letters won

Head Coach: Ron McBride — **1998 Record (WAC): 7–4 (5–3)**
1999 Prediction: 3rd MWC — **Robert Rice Stadium (45,000)**

Minnesota Golden Gophers

41

There's something strange in the air around the Minnesota Golden Gophers. Expectations. The Gophers haven't had a winning season since 1990, but the signs indicate that will change in 1999. The Gophers return 17 starters, including All-America candidate Tyrone Carter in the secondary, from a team that came within a couple of missed kicks of a 6–5 season. Coach Glen Mason has revived the defense and shut down the Minnesota border in the recruiting wars.

Joe Robbins

Tyrone Carter

"This team can win six, seven, maybe even eight games," says Carter, whom the school is pushing for postseason honors. "We can get to a bowl game. A big bowl game."

103.7 Rushing yards per game allowed by Minnesota's defense last season, 13th-best in the nation and the school's lowest average since 1962.

All that stood between the Gophers and a winning season was a 20–19 loss at Indiana, during which Adam Bailey missed two PATs.

"Some people say there's not much difference between going 6–5 and 5–6," Mason says. "There's a huge difference: One's winning and one's losing. We expect to take that next step."

If Mason could fuse quarterbacks Billy Cockerham and Andy Persby, he'd really have something. Cockerham's a runner who can't throw; Persby, a passer with shoes of lead. Cockerham finished with a flourish by running for two touchdowns and throwing for two others against Iowa. The X factor is Asad Abdul-Khaliq, who didn't qualify academically in 1998."He'll have a heck of a lot more experience in September than a typical incoming freshman," Mason says.

Thomas Hamner, a second-team All-Big Ten pick last season who has led the team in rushing his first three seasons, is clearly the No. 1 running back but has been inconsistent. If that continues, the door will be open for Thomas Tapeh, the running back of the future. The question is: Just how quickly will the future arrive for the high school star who was considered by some analysts a national Top 50 recruit?

Wideout Luke Leverson, the team's offensive MVP last season, tied for third in the Big Ten with nine touchdown receptions. And Ron Johnson isn't far behind. Johnson, son of the former Pittsburgh Steeler of the same name, set school freshman records with 38 receptions and four touchdowns. Antoine Henderson, Elvin Jones and converted quarterback Ryan Keller return to give the Gophers lots of depth.

By midseason, the offensive line could be the team's strength. The Gophers return starters everywhere but at right tackle, where Josh Rawlings replaces Jon Albrecht. Rawlings must hold off Jake Kuppe for the starter's spot.

Everything on the line revolves around center Ben Hamilton, the son of former Minnesota Vikings' lineman Wes Hamilton. The younger Hamilton has started 23 consecutive games, didn't have a single penalty called against him last season and is a star — if linemen can be stars.

The Gophers return seven starters on a defense that climbed to sixth overall in the Big Ten in '98, a monumental leap for a team that finished last just three years ago. But only half of the starting line is back.

Defensive tackle John Schlecht proved last season he could make the leap to big-time college football. Senior end Jon Michals is also back after combining with Schlecht for 76 tackles.

Karon Riley, a transfer from SMU, and Dyron Russ will be expected to fill the openings left by the loss of Antoine Richard and the move of Curtese Poole from end to linebacker. Mason expects big things from Chris Smith, a tackle from the Bronx, N.Y.

At linebacker, the Gophers bring back three starters. Sean Hoffman, who posted three interceptions in '98, and Ben Mezera both return. Poole has been a quarterback, a linebacker and a defensive end during his career.

Carter finished second in the Big Ten with 14.4 tackles a game at strong safety. Willie Middlebrooks was forced to grow up after cornerback Jimmy Wyrick missed the season because of a foot injury. Cornerback still is a cause for concern. Craig Scruggs is gone, and both Wyrick and Clorenzo Griffin (knee surgery) slowly are recovering from injuries.

The Gophers must replace placekicker Bailey, a three-year starter who was absolutely dependable until he stumbled in the Indiana game. Preston Gruening is the heir apparent, and he could challenge Ryan Rindels for punting duties as well. Carter posted a 26.7-yard kickoff return average in '98. Leverson should again handle punt returns.

Depth Chart

OFFENSE (10)

WR	7	**Luke Leverson (Sr., 3)**	4	Antoine Henderson (Jr., 2)
LT	74	**Adam Haayer (Jr., 2)**	70	**Erik Larson (Jr., 1)**
LG	77	**Pat Hau (Sr., 2)**	68	Derek Burns (So., 0)
C	55	**Ben Hamilton (Jr., 2)**	51	Akeem Akinwale (So., 0)
RG	66	**Ryan Roth (So., 1)**	60	Joe Palke (Fr., 0)
RT		Josh Rawlings (Sr., 2)	75	Jake Kuppe (Fr., 0)
TE	84	**Alex Hass (Sr., 2)**	81	Zach Vevea (So., 1)
QB	5	**Billy Cockerham (Sr., 2)**	11	Andy Persby (Jr., 1)
FB	25	Brad Prigge (Sr., 2)	44	Jason Andraschko (Fr., 0)
RB	12	**Thomas Hamner (Sr., 3)**	36	Byron Evans (Sr., 3)
WR	3	**Ron Johnson (So., 1)**	80	Elvin Jones (So., 1)

DEFENSE (7)

LE	95	**Jon Michals (Sr., 3)**	98	Mike Cernoch (Jr., 1)
LT	92	Dyron Russ (Sr., 2)	96	Dave Sykora (Fr., 0)
RT	93	**John Schlecht (Jr., 1)**	99	Matt Anderle (So., 1)
RE	91	Karon Riley (Jr., 0)	90	Drew Dehnicke (So., 0)
LB	9	**Curtese Poole (Jr., 1)**	38	Justin Hall (Jr., 2)
LB	45	**Sean Hoffman (Jr., 2)**	48	Asten Osei (So., 1)
LB	97	**Ben Mezera (Jr., 2)**	52	Luke Braaten (Sr., 3)
LC	13	Trevis Graham (Jr., 2)	39	Mike Lehan (Fr., 0)
RC	42	**Willie Middlebrooks (So.,1)**	20	Fred Rodgers (Sr., 3)
SS	22	**Tyrone Carter (Sr., 3)**	6	Jimmy Henry (Sr., 1)
FS	21	Delvin Jones (So., 1)	2	Jack Brewer (So., 0)

SPECIAL TEAMS

K	14	Preston Gruening (Fr., 0)
P	35	Ryan Rindels (Sr., 3)
KR	22	Tyrone Carter (Sr., 3)
PR	7	Luke Leverson (Sr., 3)

(#) Indicates number of returning starters
***BOLD** indicates returning starters*
NUMBER after class indicates letters won

Head Coach: Glen Mason — **1998 Record (Big 10): 5–6 (2–6)**
1999 Prediction: 7th Big 10 — **H.H.H. Metrodome (63,669)**

California Golden Bears

42

Quarterback problems may limit California to another 5–6 season, but if record-setting incoming freshman Kyle Boller is as good as his press clippings, the Bears could land in a prominent bowl.

This is the key to Cal's success, and with a freshman in contention to start, it is a fragile situation.

Peter Brouillet

Deltha O'Neal

Last year's backup, Samuel Clemons, has shown little in his rare appearances, and redshirt freshman David Page is an unknown quantity. But both have the arm strength to run new offensive coordinator Steve Hagen's vertical offense, which last year's quarterback, Justin Vedder, did not have.

58 The number of sacks yielded by Cal last season, even though the Bears used a short-passing game. This year, the Bears plan to throw downfield and will need more time.

Clemons and Page battled for the No. 1 spot this spring, but Boller, rated the nation's top high school quarterback by some recruiting services, will have a chance to win the spot in the fall. He certainly has the skills for this offense, with good size and a powerful arm; he claims to have thrown a ball 84 yards in practice. The system he used in high school is similar to Cal's.

At running back, Marcus Fields was adequate last season, but he was not the punishing battering ram Cal had expected. The team's best runner may be sophomore Saleem Muhammad, a hybrid tailback-fullback who will share the fullback job with Joshua White, a good blocker and tough inside runner.

Cal has a lot of wide receivers, which is helpful for an offense that will use four- and five-wideout sets, but it lacks a star receiver.

Joel Young, a former walk-on, is the lone proven commodity, and he is not the deep threat Cal needs in this offense. Phillip Pipersburg has the speed but has never had the production. The answer will have to come from Cal's stable of prized second-year receivers, with Michael Ainsworth, who redshirted as a freshman, and sophomore Ronnie Davenport being the prime suspects.

Cal is well-fortified at tight end with Brian Surgener.

The offensive line starts with John Romero, a high-quality center. Huge tackle Langston Walker and guard Kevin Doherty are on the cusp of stardom.

Nonetheless, the Bears' line remains a question mark. It was a weakness last season, and it is still plugging holes. Having a new offense won't hasten the development process. Left tackle is the biggest concern, with Reed Diehl expected to get the first crack at filling the void left by John Welbourn, Cal's best lineman last year.

On defense, the linebackers will have the impressive numbers, but the line is really the strength of Cal's defense. Although Andre Carter's responsibilities at his defensive end spot will prevent him from getting a lot of sacks or tackles, he is Cal's best defensive lineman with the strength, speed and know-how to do anything needed.

The other defensive end, Mawuko Tugbenyoh, will be set free to rack up the sacks and force fumbles; he was second on the team in sacks last season with six. Jerry DeLoach is a road block at the defensive tackle spot, and nose tackle Jacob Waasdorp has the quickness to beat opposing centers and make big plays.

No Pac-10 team can match the inside-outside talent of Matt Beck on the inside and Sékou Sanyika on the outside at linebacker. The only question about Sanyika is whether he can duplicate last year's performance, when he led the conference in tackles for loss despite playing a position that is not designed for collecting impressive stats.

Beck covers the entire field. He and Deltha O'Neal are the best athletes on the team, and Beck has that intense linebacker's mentality. The other inside linebacker will be Keith Miller, a tough run defender who has been slowed the past two years by a knee injury.

In the secondary, the only concern is strong safety, where consistent performer Marquis Smith is gone. Damian Marzett, another physical safety, played well enough in his stints and will be the starter. Free safety Peter Destefano was the team's most improved player after being a weakness in 1997. Cal has three quality cornerbacks: Chidi Iwuoma, Drae Harris and O'Neal.

O'Neal is as good a return man as there is in the country. Nick Harris is an effective punter. Placekicking will be on the shoulders of newcomer Jeremy Hershey.

Depth Chart

OFFENSE (6)

WR	6	**Joel Young (Sr., 2)**	7	Ronnie Davenport (So., 1)
LT	60	Reed Diehl (Jr., 2)	72	Chris Chick (Jr., 0)
LG	65	**Brandon Ludwig (So., 1)**	62	Adam Fisher (Fr., 0)
C	73	John Romero (Sr., 2)	61	Russell Wittman (Fr., 0)
RG	71	Kevin Doherty (Sr., 2)	79	Brian Gray (Fr., 0)
RT	66	**Langston Walker (So., 1)**	68	Robert Truhitte (Jr., 0)
TE	87	**Brian Surgener (Jr., 2)**	32	Corey Smith (So., 1)
QB	5	Samuel Clemons (So., 1)	16	David Page (Fr., 0)
FB	38	Saleem Muhammad (So., 1)	40	**Joshua White (Sr., 2)**
RB	4	**Marcus Fields (Jr., 2)**	35	Marcus Oliver (Jr., 2)
WR	88	Phillip Pipersburg (Jr., 2)	86	Sean Currin (So., 1)

DEFENSE (7)

DE	58	Mawuko Tugbenyoh (Sr., 3)	9	Johnny Jackson (Jr., 0)
DT	98	**Jerry DeLoach (Sr., 3)**	91	Tim Pompa (So., 0)
NT	94	**Jacob Waasdorp (Jr., 2)**	99	Nate Geldermann (Jr., 2)
DE	97	**Andre Carter (Jr., 2)**	95	Jeremiah Parker (Sr., 3)
LB	13	**Sékou Sanyika (Sr., 3)**	49	Scott Fujita (So., 1)
LB	53	Keith Miller (Sr., 1)	43	Jamaal Cherry (So., 1)
LB	59	**Matt Beck (Sr., 3)**	45	Matt Nixon (Fr., 0)
CB	25	**Chidi Iwuoma (Jr., 2)**	11	Drae Harris (Sr., 1)
CB	8	Deltha O'Neal (Sr., 3)	21	Jameel Powell (Fr., 0)
SS	2	Damian Marzett (Sr., 1)	32	Paul Ugenti (Fr., 0)
FS	20	**Peter Destefano (Sr., 3)**	37	Bert Watts (Fr., 0)

SPECIAL TEAMS

K		Jeremy Hershey (Fr., 0)
P	89	Nick Harris (Jr., 2)
KR	8	Deltha O'Neal (Sr., 3)
PR	8	Deltha O'Neal (Sr., 3)

(#) Indicates number of returning starters
***BOLD** indicates returning starters*
NUMBER after class indicates letters won

Head Coach: Tom Holmoe | **1998 Record (Pac-10): 5–6 (3–5)**
1999 Prediction: 6th Pac-10 | **Memorial Stadium (74,909)**

Kansas Jayhawks

43

Kansas led or was tied in the fourth quarter in four of its seven losses in 1998, an indication that the Jayhawks were competitive despite winning only once in the conference.

The fourth-quarter woes also reflected injuries and a lack of depth, which third-year head coach Terry Allen has tried to address, in part, by redshirting 26 recruits the last two seasons.

David Preston

David Winbush

The health of senior quarterback Zac Wegner is a concern after he suffered concussions in two consecutive games and was forced to the sidelines. As a result, he was held out of contact in the spring.

107 The Jayhawks' ranking among NCAA Division I-A programs in rushing defense. They allowed an average of 235.6 yards per game on the ground.

The passing attack showed marked improvement under Wegner's direction. Even so, he'll be pressed by junior college transfer Dylen Smith, who has a strong arm and the athleticism to avoid a pass rush.

Junior David Winbush and senior Mitch Bowles have big-play potential at tailback. Their lack of size, however, is a concern. Allen's plan was to get each tailback 15 carries a game. But Winbush, the smaller of the two at 5'7", 175, averaged nearly 20 carries, gaining 974 yards and scoring nine touchdowns. Bowles did a little of everything, receiving as well as running. He made eight plays of 25 or more yards, including a 62-yard pass reception and run. Sophomore Henri Childs, used primarily as a receiver last season, provides size at running back. Junior Moran Norris, a converted tight end, is the top returning fullback.

The top eight receivers return, led by senior Michael Chandler, junior Termaine Fulton and sophomore Harrison Hill. The steady Chandler had a string of 14 straight games with a reception snapped in the season finale at Iowa State. Fulton averaged 20 yards per reception, with seven of his catches resulting in gains of 25 yards or more. Lanky sophomore Byron Gasaway has breakaway speed and provides depth. Junior Jason Gulley returns at tight end.

Seniors Dameon Hunt and Chris Enneking are the only returning starters in the offensive line, but typically nine players rotated there, among them juniors Chuck Jarvis and Bob Schmidt and sophomores Justin Hartwig and Bob Smith. Hunt is big and powerful, but he might have trouble cracking the starting lineup. Marc Owen, another 300-pounder, can play tackle as well as guard. Junior John Oddonetto redshirted after transferring from junior college and is penciled in behind Jason Stevenson at right guard.

The Jayhawks were pushed around up front on defense and consequently were vulnerable to the run, a serious deficiency in a run-oriented conference. Senior Dion Rayford and sophomore Nate Dwyer were among the few bright spots. Dwyer came on strong in his first collegiate season with three sacks and two interceptions, one of which he returned 43 yards for a touchdown, and provides good depth along the front. Rayford also had three sacks among his 10 tackles for loss. Nose tackle John Williams and end Dion Johnson are returning starters.

Junior linebacker Dariss Lomax, one of the team's best athletes, returns after a season spent on the sidelines for academic reasons. He joins sophomores Andrew LeClair and Marcus Rogers on the inside.

Junior Tim Bowers and sophomore Algie Atkinson are the top returnees outside. Bowers showed signs of being a playmaker. He had 4½ tackles for loss and broke up three passes. He also returned a fumble 48 yards for a touchdown in the upset of Colorado.

Two starters, cornerback Muhammad Abdul-Rahim and free safety Chad Coellner, both seniors, return in the secondary. Abdul-Rahim had three interceptions and four pass breakups in only eight games. He'll be fighting for starting time with sophomore Andrew Davison, who started four times as a freshman. Juniors Greg Erb and Bilal Cook and sophomore Quincy Roe will be in the mix.

Sophomore Matt Tyler, who averaged 37.1 yards on 63 punts, will have to compete with junior college transfer Joey Pelfanio to maintain his starting position. Junior Joe Garcia was 27-of-29 on extra-point kicks and 12-of-17 on field goals. The versatile Bowles was fourth in the Big 12 in kickoff returns, and Childs was fifth in the conference in punt returns. Childs and Hill both returned punts for touchdowns.

Depth Chart

OFFENSE (9)

SE	**86 Michael Chandler (Sr., 3)**	**1 Harrison Hill (So., 1)**
LT	53 Bob Smith (So., 1)	70 Gabe Rosalis (Fr., 0)
LG	78 Chuck Jarvis (Jr., 2)	**73 Dameon Hunt (Sr., 3)**
C	**68 Chris Enneking (Sr., 3)**	56 Bob Schmidt (Jr., 2)
RG	57 Jason Stevenson (So., 0)	71 John Oddonetto (Jr., 0)
RT	75 Justin Hartwig (So., 0)	76 Ben Coleman (So., 1)
TE	**80 Jason Gulley (Jr., 2)**	81 Steve Kullberg (So., 1)
QB	**14 Zac Wegner (Sr., 2)**	Dylen Smith (Jr., 0)
FB	**33 Moran Norris (Jr., 2)**	36 Tyrus Fontenot (Sr., 3)
TB	**22 David Winbush (Jr., 2)**	20 Mitch Bowles (Sr., 3)
FL	**8 Termaine Fulton (Jr., 2)**	2 Byron Gasaway (So., 1)

DEFENSE (5)

LE	**41 Dion Rayford (Sr., 1)**	95 Jeremy Hanak (Sr., 3)
NT	**59 John Williams (Sr., 3)**	92 Nate Dwyer (So., 1)
RE	**63 Dion Johnson (Sr., 3)**	93 Kareem Carter (Sr., 1)
LB	16 Tim Bowers (Jr., 2)	45 Victor Bullock (Jr., 1)
LB	55 Andrew LeClair (So., 1)	31 Scott Rogers (Jr., 0)
LB	51 Dariss Lomax (Jr., 1)	98 Marcus Rogers (So., 1)
LB	98 Algie Atkinson (So., 1)	97 Chaz Murphy (Jr., 0)
LC	7 Quincy Roe (So., 1)	3 Jahmal Wright (Sr., 1)
RC	24 Andrew Davison (So., 1)	**23 M.Abdul-Rahim (Sr., 1)**
SS	38 Greg Erb (Sr., 2)	27 Kareem High (Jr., 0)
FS	**18 Chad Coellner (Sr., 3)**	6 Bilal Cook (Jr., 1)

SPECIAL TEAMS

K	30 Joe Garcia (Jr., 2)
P	37 Joey Pelfanio (Jr., 0)
KR	20 Mitch Bowles (Sr., 3)
PR	28 Henri Childs (So., 1)

(#) Indicates number of returning starters
***BOLD** indicates returning starters*
NUMBER after class indicates letters won

Head Coach: Terry Allen	1998 Record (Big 12): 4–7 (1–7)
1999 Prediction: 4th Big 12 North	Memorial Stadium (50,250)

Houston Cougars

44

Houston coach Kim Helton enters his seventh year at the helm with a record of 17–49–1. Since capturing a share of Conference USA's first championship in 1996 with an overall record of 7–5 (4–1 in the conference), the Cougars have posted a pair of 3–8 marks.

Judging from the talent returning for Houston in 1999, the Ws on Helton's slate should begin to catch up with the Ls. On paper, the potential is there for a breakthrough year in 1999, with 18 starters — nine on offense, nine on defense — returning along with most of their backups.

Jason Wise

Ketric Sanford

142.2 Number of yards per game surrendered by the 1998 Houston rushing defense, C-USA's best.

Houston's multiple pro offense should kick into high gear. With help up front, quarterback Jason McKinley, wide receivers Jerrian James and Orlando Iglesias, and running back/kick returner Ketric Sanford will light up the scoreboard early and often.

McKinley, the Conference USA Freshman of the Year in 1997, has all the necessary tools — arm strength, touch, mobility — and Helton expects a big year from his signal caller. McKinley's consistency and decision-making continue to improve as he gains confidence and experience, as his completion percentage and touchdown-to-interception ratio attest. The 6'3", 217-pound junior from Austin was 218-of-386 for 2,437 yards and 18 touchdowns last fall.

Sanford, who has been one of the conference's most feared return specialists since he first arrived on campus in 1996, finally cracked the 1,000-yard rushing mark last fall with 1,054 yards on 222 carries. A hard-to-tackle, 5'8", 202-pound package of speed, quickness and strength, Sanford explodes through the hole and can make tacklers miss in the open field.

In a conference teeming with game-breaking receivers, James and Iglesias are its best-kept secrets. In 1998, the two combined for 143 catches, 1,703 yards and 13 touchdown receptions. An easy target at 6'2", 212, Iglesias is an outstanding leaper who specializes in the circus catch. James came out of junior college last year to draw coverage away from Iglesias and ended up as the team's leading receiver with 80 catches to Iglesias' 63. Scott Regimbald, who registered 21 pass receptions, including three for scores, will start at tight end for a fourth year.

Four returning starters up front are a welcome sight for Houston's stellar skill players. Tackle Josh Lovelady, guards Gregory Brown and Justin Stille and center Jeff Medford allowed opponents just 16 sacks in 386 pass plays and paved the way for Sanford's 1,000-yard campaign. The vacancy at right tackle will be filled by either Jabari Beauford or Drew Lowery, both sophomores. Helton believes Jeremy Griffith, who made the C-USA All-Freshman team on the defensive line in '98, can be a sensational offensive lineman.

Jonathan Pritchett, the C-USA All-Freshman tight end in '98, takes his athleticism and intensity to the defensive line this year and is scheduled to start at right end. But Ahmad Charles, a senior whom Helton says really came on last year, could overtake him. Junior college transfer Grover Thompson, a first-team NJCAA All-American and a finalist for juco Player of the Year, takes over at left end. Seniors Mike DeRouselle and Adriano Belli return at the tackles and are a stubborn pair of run stuffers.

Seniors Jeremy Maxon and Micah Malone and junior Wayne Rogers were the starting linebackers last year, and all three are back for 1999. Rogers racked up 13 tackles for loss, three sacks and an interception from his strong-side post. One newcomer to watch for is Junior Ioane, who was rated the No. 6 juco prospect in the nation by one publication.

Strong safety Mike James was second-team All-C-USA and Houston's top tackler in '98. James and cornerbacks Emile White and William Fields picked off two passes apiece. Fields is a tenacious cover corner; White is a former free safety who moved to the corner last year. Junior David Williams is an instinctive, athletic free safety who broke through for four tackles for loss last fall.

The kicking game is in flux. Joey Saavedra averaged 37 yards as last year's punter. He is now a candidate for the vacant placekicker job, which redshirt freshman Zach Waddell could also win. Junior college transfer Jeff Patterson is the new punter. The return game is in excellent hands with Sanford handling kickoffs and Williams returning punts.

Depth Chart

OFFENSE (9)

SE	18	**Orlando Iglesias (Jr., 2)**	82	Brian Robinson (Fr., 0)
LT	71	**Josh Lovelady (Jr., 2)**	67	Clayton Bunting (Fr., 0)
LG	68	**Gregory Brown (Sr., 3)**	62	Ryan Hendrickson (Jr., 2)
C	64	**Jeff Medford (Sr., 3)**	65	Nathan Woody (Jr., 2)
RG	78	**Justin Stille (Sr., 3)**	66	Chris Wheeler (Fr., 0)
RT	79	Jabari Beauford (So., 1)	70	Drew Lowery (So., 1)
TE	21	**Scott Regimbald (Sr., 3)**	81	Travis Finch (Jr., 0)
QB	16	**Jason McKinley (Jr., 2)**	15	Tyson Helton (Sr., 3)
FB	29	Tommie Baldwin (So., 1)	40	Kairon Hill (So., 1)
RB	7	**Ketric Sanford (Sr., 3)**	2	Mike Green (Sr., 1)
FL	12	**Jerrian James (Sr., 1)**	83	KeyKowa Bell (So., 1)

DEFENSE (9)

LE	95	Grover Thompson (Jr., 0)	34	Sam Hairston (Jr., 2)
LT	80	**Mike DeRouselle (Sr., 3)**	94	Kevin Payne (So., 1)
RT	90	**Adriano Belli (Sr., 3)**	92	Mike Knepper (Sr., 3)
RE	87	Jonathan Pritchett (So., 1)	50	Ahmad Charles (Sr., 3)
LB	10	**Wayne Rogers (Jr., 2)**	41	Arthur Gissendanner (So., 1)
LB	45	**Jeremy Maxon (Sr., 1)**		Junior Ioane (Jr., 0)
LB	19	**Micah Malone (Sr., 3)**	59	Waymond Ervin (So., 1)
LC	35	**William Fields (Sr., 3)**	4	Kenny Hill (Sr., 1)
RC	22	**Emile White (Jr., 2)**	49	Jason Parker (So., 1)
SS	25	**Mike James (Sr., 1)**	17	Greg Holte (So., 1)
FS	46	**David Williams (Jr., 1)**		Hamin Milligan (Jr., 0)

SPECIAL TEAMS

K		Zach Waddell (Fr., 0)	86	Joey Saavedra (So., 1)
P		Jeff Patterson (Jr., 0)		
KR	7	Ketric Sanford (Sr., 3)		
PR	3	Kendall Williams (Jr., 2)		

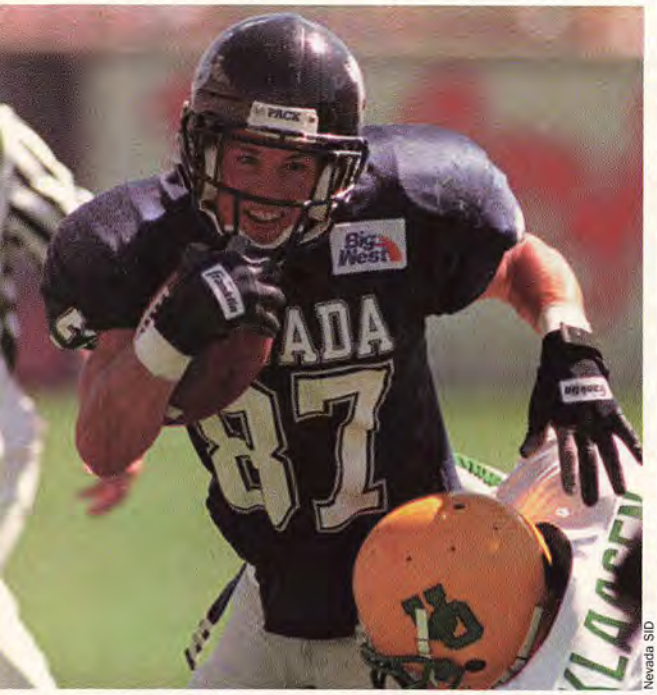
(#) Indicates number of returning starters
***BOLD** indicates returning starters*
NUMBER after class indicates letters won

Head Coach: Kim Helton — **1998 Record (C-USA): 3–8 (2–4)**
1999 Prediction: 3rd C-USA — **Robertson Stadium (33,000)**

Nevada Wolf Pack

45

If Nevada head coach Jeff Tisdel wasn't so entrenched in the Wolf Pack football system — he was a former quarterback under now-AD and then-head coach and former Nevada quarterback Chris Ault — there might be more talk about his job security. As the Big West's team of the '90s with four outright conference championships, a share of three others and two bowl appearances, the latter part of the decade has given the Wolf Pack and fourth-year coach Tisdel fits.



Nevada SID

Trevor Insley

Like everyone else, Nevada continues to attempt to bolster its schedule and exposure for future conference possibilities. All Tisdel has his mind on, however, is getting the Pack back on track. Two years ago, Nevada finished under .500. Last year, the program suffered humiliating losses to the conference's two weakest teams, New Mexico State, at home, and North Texas, a squad it has owned since it moved into the Big West.

33 Wide receiver Trevor Insley has caught a ball in every game he has played for the Wolf Pack — a streak that spans 33 games. He also has 16 100-yard plus receiving games.

"We only had 10 seniors last year," Tisdel says. "We've really bolstered our schedule like a lot of people in the league. It takes some time when you make a jump to play the Oregons and Mississippi States. We feel good about our last two recruiting classes and where we can be this year."

On the schedule are two Pac-10 teams (Oregon and Oregon State), two Mountain West teams (Colorado State and UNLV) and one WAC team (Fresno State). Add new conference member Arkansas State in place of lightweight non-conference foe Cal Poly and the schedule keeps getting tougher.

Tisdel knows that the quickest road to recovery is a fire-throwing quarterback. Tisdel likes his, sophomore David Neill, who turned near disaster into a breath of optimism for the future. As a true freshman, he took over a struggling offense, and despite playing in only nine games and starting seven, he finished with 3,249 yards passing and 29 touchdowns, nine interceptions and a 57.9 completion percentage. "David is the foundation to our future," Tisdel says.

Eight other starters return to an offense that ended up cranking out 507 yards a game and finished fifth in the nation in total offense and fourth in passing offense. Folks in Reno expect an even more productive attack for several reasons. The first is the return of play making wide receiver Trevor Insley. Insley enters the year with the best yards-per-catch average (17.96) in school history. He needs 1,574 receiving yards to break the NCAA's all-time record (4,518) set by Marcus Harris of Wyoming from 1993-96.

Senior tight end Darin Higgins returns as the team's second-leading receiver. Junior receiver David Burr and senior Cle Brooks will try to become the other half of the dynamic duo along with Insley.

Also back is senior RB Chris Lemon, the conference's top returning rusher (1,154 yards and 13 touchdowns on 253 carries). He is backed up by junior Adrien Dugas.

A stacked line caps off an offense that looks torqued. Center Ryan Scuffy anchors the senior-laden line. Cameron Norcross starts at strong guard, Jeff Batrez starts at strong tackle, while Eric Harper opens at weak guard and 290-pound Greg Bird at weak tackle.

Six defensive starters return, and six seniors will start. Junior linebackers Jason Burk and Arona Taele return to anchor the defense. Burk led the team with 101 tackles and Taele tallied 72.

The incumbents on the defensive line include tackles Rick Cross and Clark Roosendaal and end Horacio Leyva. Senior Jim Farley could get the nod at right tackle, while senior Cedric Pittman is the favorite at right end.

The secondary returns senior all-conference selection Maxzell Williams at strong safety. A junior college transfer, Williams' first season with the Wolf Pack included 70 tackles and four sacks. Junior Mack Carminer starts at right corner and junior Del Bates at the other corner. Senior Greg Oliver should start at free safety.

Sophomore punter Norm Brady returns after posting a 39-yard average per punt with 10 kicks landing inside the 20-yard line. Redshirt freshman kicker Ray Sanchez is pushing incumbent junior Mike Phillips, who made only 40 percent of his field goals despite converting 41 of 43 extra-point attempts.

Depth Chart

OFFENSE (9)

SE	**87**	**Trevor Insley (Sr., 3)**	15	Mo Jones (So., 1)
LT	**78**	**Greg Bird (Sr., 1)**	72	Greg Cukrov (Sr., 1)
LG	**66**	**Eric Harper (Sr., 1)**	73	Rickie Stevens (Jr., 0)
C	68	Ryan Scuffy (Jr., 2)	66	Eric Harper (Sr., 1)
RG	**59**	**Cameron Norcross (Sr., 2)**	70	Andrew Siderius (Jr., 1)
RT	**63**	**Jeff Batrez (Sr., 1)**	72	Greg Cukrov (Sr., 1)
TE	**82**	**Darin Higgins (Sr., 2)**	84	Nathan Allen (Sr., 2)
QB	**11**	**David Neill (So., 1)**	10	Erik Stidham (Sr., 1)
RB	**33**	**Chris Lemon (Sr., 3)**	32	Adrien Dugas (Jr., 2)
FL	**80**	**David Burr (So., 1)**	89	Cle Brooks (Jr., 1)
WR	89	Cle Brooks (Sr., 1)	80	David Burr (So., 1)

DEFENSE (6)

DE	**90**	**Horacio Leyva (So., 1)**	43	Jacob Silicz (So., 1)
DT	47	Jim Farley (Sr., 2)	56	Ronnie Taylor (Jr., 0)
DT	**93**	**Rick Cross (Sr., 3)**	96	Clark Roosendaal (Jr., 1)
DE	55	Cedric Pittman (Sr., 2)	57	Mike Donnelly (So., 0)
LB	51	Dan Rockwell (Sr., 2)	48	Josh Smith (Jr., 1)
LB	**13**	**Jason Burk (Jr., 0)**	51	Dan Rockwell (Sr., 2)
LB	**38**	**Arona Taele (Jr., 2)**		
CB	2	Del Bates (Jr., 0)	29	Aaron Dean (Fr., 0)
CB	**18**	**Mack Carminer (Jr., 2)**	1	Charles Rogers (Sr., 1)
SS	**6**	**Maxzell Williams (Sr., 1)**	22	Christian Broussard (Jr., 2)
FS	23	Greg Oliver (Sr., 3)	9	Brian Laudermilk (Jr., 1)

SPECIAL TEAMS

K	16	Mike Phillips (Jr., 2)
P	85	Norm Brady (So., 1)
KR	2	Del Bates (Jr., 1)
PR	87	Trevor Insley (Sr., 3)

(#) Indicates number of returning starters
***BOLD** indicates returning starters*
NUMBER after class indicates letters won

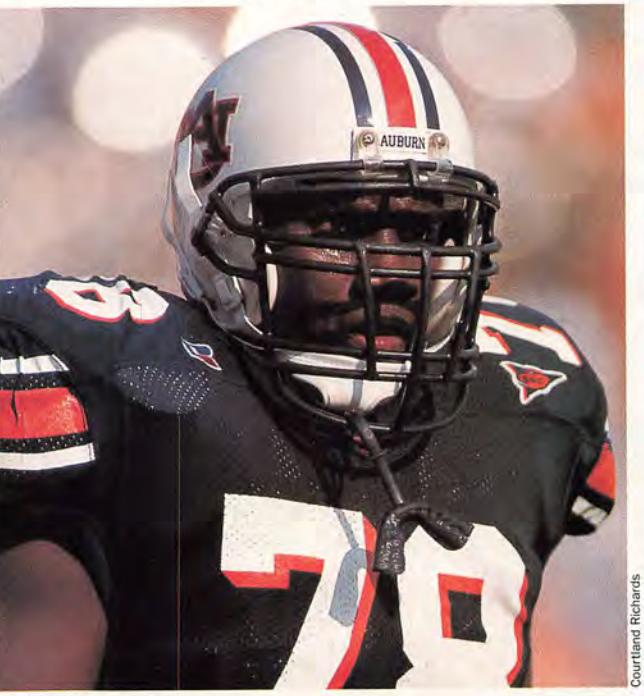
Head Coach: Jeff Tisdel — **1998 Record (Big West): 6–5 (3–2)**
1999 Prediction: 2nd Big West — **Mackay Stadium (31,545)**

Auburn Tigers

46

The Auburn Tigers are ready to put away a year of turmoil that sent the program careening to an all-time low.

Auburn went from an appearance in the SEC Championship Game to one conference win, the ugly departure of the winningest five-year coach in school history and public relations disasters piling on top of each other.



Courtland Richards

Jeno James

The Tigers have a new staff, new offense and defense and a chance to win this fall. Tommy Tuberville comes from Ole Miss to replace Terry Bowden, who walked away saying he had been told there was no chance to keep his job after the season.

1,032 Embarrassing total rushing yardage by the school that produced three individual 1,000-yard runners from 1993-95. Tuberville has vowed a return to the run.

But all the public relations disasters didn't depart with Bowden. One came when Tuberville insisted on buying out a long-scheduled opener with Florida State and Bobby Bowden, Terry's father. Appalachian State will come in instead.

Ben Leard and Gabe Gross are likely to carry the final exam for No. 1 quarterback into game week for Appalachian State. Leard, who started five games as a sophomore, fell out of favor with Bowden, and true freshman Gross started five of the last six. Leard had 703 yards passing, Gross 1,222.

The Tigers will attack from a new one-back offense, and three serious candidates approach the season wanting the job. The challengers are Heath Evans, Demontray Carter and sophomore Michael Burks. Evans brings power, Carter speed and open field magic, and Burks a little of both. Burks was Auburn's leading rusher with a modest 480 yards while Carter had 406.

The loss of Clifton Robinson after a statutory rape charge in the spring took away the only starting experience at receiver, 42 catches and 672 yards. Ryan Hooker, Brandon White and Joe Whitt will share the load, provided Robinson doesn't return.

Tuberville does not rule out playing freshman free safety Stanford Simmons two ways. He may find help from freshmen Ronney Daniels, 22 years old after three years of pro baseball, and Deandre Green, a highly touted recruit. Tight end Jack Schwieger is a powerful 251-pound presence.

The offensive line didn't push anybody around last year, but the good news is most are back. Five of the front six who paved the way for a meager 1,032 rushing yards have a chance to do it right. They play a more prominent role in an offense now committed to the run. Tackle Jeno James, guard Mike Pucillo, center Cole Cubelic and tackle Colin Sears open a second straight season bigger and stronger. Add 318-pound guard Kendall Simmons, biggest of them all, and the pieces are in place.

The defensive front changes from three to four down men, and four quality starters are available. Marcus Washington and Leonardo Carson are all-star prospects at end and Jeff Dunlap and Jimmy Brumbaugh should also contend for honors at tackle.

Carson in particular is a big-play man. He led the team in tackles with 90, including 8 for loss and 8.5 sacks. Quinton Reese started seven games at outside linebacker but at 260 pounds grew into a rush end. Dunlap will log significant playing time as swingman at tackle.

Tavarreus Pounds in the middle and James Callier on the strong side were redshirt freshmen starters at linebacker last season. Pounds moved to weak side and Callier missed the spring with injuries. Though on the short side at 6'0", they are big hitters who posted 122 tackles between them. Haven Fields, who had 30 tackles in the final three games and 52 overall, takes the middle, and Kenny Kelly moves from weak to strong side.

The secondary is a strong point due to experience. Antwoine Nolan and Larry Casher at corners and Rob Pate at strong safety are returning starters. Pate is a big-play maker with 75 tackles, second on the team, and four for loss. Rodney Crayton is in the three-way rotation at corner, and Courtney Rose takes a turn at safety. Simmons intercepted 12 passes at Hargrave Military Academy. Look for Adlai Trone at free safety.

Lou Groza semifinalist Rob Bironas (12-of-16 field goals) should be one of the nation's top placekickers. Redshirt freshman Damon Duval brings a strong leg to replace punter Jeremy Zills. Markeith Cooper is an explosive kick returner (24.8-yard average).

Depth Chart

OFFENSE (5)

WR	26	Brandon White (So., 1)		Deandre Green (Fr., 0)
LT	**78**	**Jeno James (Sr., 3)**	64	Tim Castro (Jr., 1)
LG	73	Kendall Simmons (Jr., 2)	75	Hart McGarry (So., 1)
C	61	Cole Cubelic (Jr., 2)	55	Ben Nowland (Fr., 0)
RG	79	Mike Pucillo (So., 1)		Spencer Harris (Fr., 0)
RT	**71**	**Colin Sears (Jr., 2)**	72	Jeremy Toungett (So., 1)
TE	80	Jack Schwieger (Sr., 1)	89	Reid Tankersley (So., 1)
QB	14	Ben Leard (Jr., 2)	**22**	**Gabe Gross (So., 1)**
RB	44	Heath Evans (So., 1)	**1**	**Demontray Carter (Jr., 2)**
WR	19	Joe Whitt (So., 1)		Ronney Daniels (Fr., 0)
WR	18	Ryan Hooker (Jr., 1)	19	Joe Whitt (So., 1)

DEFENSE (7)

DE	**82**	**Marcus Washington (Sr., 3)**	**86**	**Quinton Reese (Sr., 3)**
DT	76	Jeff Dunlap (Jr., 2)	98	Jeremy Banks (Jr., 2)
DT	96	Jimmy Brumbaugh (Sr., 3)	94	Davern Williams (Fr., 0)
DE	**95**	**Leonardo Carson (Sr., 3)**	93	Josh Weldon (So., 1)
LB	**41**	**Tavarreus Pounds (So., 1)**	59	Dave Beasley (Sr., 2)
LB	54	Haven Fields (Sr., 3)	42	Whit Smith (So., 1)
LB	**51**	**James Callier (So., 0)**	36	Kenny Kelly (Sr., 1)
CB	24	Larry Casher (Jr., 2)	10	Rodney Crayton (Jr., 2)
CB	**13**	**Antwoine Nolan (Sr., 3)**	10	Rodney Crayton (Jr., 2)
SS	**31**	**Rob Pate (Jr., 2)**	30	Courtney Rose (Jr., 2)
FS	32	Adlai Trone (Sr., 2)		Stanford Simmons (Fr., 0)

SPECIAL TEAMS

K	16	Rob Bironas (Jr., 1)
P	20	Damon Duval (Fr., 0)
KR	17	Markeith Cooper (Sr., 3)
PR	17	Markeith Cooper (Sr., 3)

(#) Indicates number of returning starters
***BOLD** indicates returning starters*
NUMBER after class indicates letters won

Head Coach: Tommy Tuberville | **1998 Record (SEC): 3-8 (1-7)**
1999 Prediction: 5th SEC West | **Jordan-Hare Stadium (85,214)**

Miami Redhawks

47

A Division I-A playoff sounds like a good idea in tiny Oxford, Ohio, where Miami laid claim to the title "best team not in a bowl game" last year.

Actually, the RedHawks were better than several of the teams that played in the lesser bowls but, because of a small alumni base and little network TV exposure, Miami was snubbed despite a 10–1 record.

Miami (Ohio) SID

Travis Prentice

The Redhawks' tie for the MAC East regular-season title and a season-opening win at North Carolina were of little comfort in the end. Frustrated, Randy Walker, the school's all-time winningest coach, left for Northwestern.

Players lobbied hard for defensive coordinator Terry Hoeppner to take over the program. Now the goals are to get the RedHawks back in a bowl (they haven't been to one since 1986) and to win a MAC title outright, the only two things Walker failed to accomplish during his nine-year tenure.

1 Number of Miami offensive categories in which Travis Prentice is in the top 3 all-time, including No. 1 in career rushing TDs (56), career points (342) and career touchdowns (57).

The core of returning talent is strong — including running back Travis Prentice, a two-time Doak Walker semifinalist. Miami's going to have to replace more than half its defense, though, and adjust quickly to its new coaching staff. The RedHawks will have to hit the ground running — literally — come September. They open against Walker and Northwestern in Evanston, Ill., on September 4 and visit West Virginia the next week.

"To say that Northwestern will be ready for us is an understatement," Hoeppner says. "It's going to be an emotional game for both myself and our players, as well as for Randy and all the former (Miami) assistants."

"Touchdown Travis" has run for 45 touchdowns the last two seasons (19 last year) and is the nation's leading returning rusher with 1,787 yards (second only to Heisman Trophy winner Ricky Williams in '98).

He's got the entire package — size (6'1"), strength and elusiveness. Prentice is durable and sure-handed, having lost one fumble in 784 career carries. He's within 17 touchdowns of Williams' NCAA career rushing mark of 72 scores and already holds school records for single-season touchdowns (25), career rushing TDs (56), overall TDs (57) and points scored (342). Prentice and Marshall quarterback Chad Pennington give the MAC two legitimate Heisman Trophy contenders. The two teams meet in Oxford on October 2.

Mike Bath was a little rickety at the outset of his first season as starting quarterback last year, but as a sophomore, he threw for 1,500 yards and 12 touchdowns with just eight interceptions. H-backs Marcus Smith and Nick Monk, a strong lead blocker, are back.

Bath has options via the air in Trevor Gaylor (38 catches, 653 yards, five TDs) and Sly Johnson (11 for 131) at wideout and Mike Sullivan and Robert Frazier at tight end.

Miami returns talent and experience along the offensive front, including All-MAC candidate Chris Kalafatis (6'4", 292 pounds) at center. Starters Alex Sulfsted, Bob Beinecke and Chris Huelsman also return. Joe Costello steps in at right tackle.

Miami's defense was the stingiest in the league last year, giving up only 12.9 points per game and 300.1 yards of total offense. But the RedHawks have too many holes across the board to come close to matching those numbers this year.

Hoeppner does like his depth on the defensive line, where tackles James Bratcher (31 tackles) and Andy Aracri (43 tackles) are back. The RedHawk ends are unproven, with Bob Petrovic, a sophomore, in one spot, and Joe Lyman at the other.

Outside linebacker Dustin Cohen led the team with 146 tackles last season (12 tackles for loss) and four interceptions, two for touchdowns. He's a big, game-breaking force who's going to have to handle more of the load with JoJuan Armour, the two-time MAC Defensive Player of the Year, gone. The rest of the RedHawks' linebacking corps is untested.

Junior college transfer Jacob Yavasile will vie with Rod Clark and Versellias Hammond (6'3", 211) for the strong safety slot while Bryan McCullough (6'0", 203) has the edge at free safety. The corners are in capable hands with Brandon Godsey and Michael Adams.

Kent McCullough will punt. Miami needs a new kicker and long-snapper. Sly Johnson is sure to return punts and/or kickoffs this fall.

Depth Chart

OFFENSE (7)

WR	3	Sly Johnson (Jr., 2)	80	Jason Branch (Fr., 0)
LT	75	**Alex Sulfsted (Jr., 1)**	76	Brian Luebke (Jr., 0)
LG	54	**Bob Beinecke (Sr., 2)**	63	Justin Smith (Fr., 0)
C	53	**Chris Kalafatis (Sr., 3)**	62	Jeremy Lee (So., 0)
RG	66	**Chris Huelsman** (Sr., 2)	77	Paul Thaler (So., 1)
RT	78	Joe Costello (So., 1)	73	Phil Hawk (So., 1)
TE	86	**Mike Sullivan (Jr., 2)**	84	Robert Frazier (So., 1)
QB	8	**Mike Bath (Jr., 2)**	15	John Schacke (Jr., 0)
HB	20	Marcus Smith (Sr., 2)	37	Nick Monk (Jr., 2)
RB	41	**Travis Prentice (Sr., 3)**	25	Steve Little (So., 1)
WR	9	Trevor Gaylor (Sr., 3)	14	Nate Sexton (Sr., 1)

DEFENSE (4)

DE	92	Bob Petrovic (So., 1)	32	Julian Goodman (So., 1)
DT	99	**James Bratcher (Sr., 2)**	68	Gino DiGiandomenico (So., 1)
DT	98	**Andy Aracri (Jr., 2)**	85	Ryan Terry (Fr., 0)
DE	89	Joe Lyman (Jr., 1)	55	Brian Potter (Jr., 0)
LB	46	**Dustin Cohen (Sr., 3)**	45	Nathan Clayton (Fr., 0)
LB	36	Mike Yeager (Sr., 2)	50	Matt Edwards (So., 1)
LB	47	Mike Montgomery (Jr., 2)	33	Gary Richardson (Fr., 0)
CB	1	Michael Adams (So., 1)	2	DeMarrio Jones (Jr., 2)
CB	6	**Brandon Godsey (Jr., 2)**	23	Kevin Williams (Sr., 1)
SS	27	Rod Clark (So., 1)	11	Versellias Hammond (Sr., 1)
FS	22	Bryan McCullough (Sr., 3)	18	Milt Bowen (Fr., 0)

SPECIAL TEAMS

K	87	Andy Brumbergs (Fr., 0)
P	10	Kent McCullough (Jr., 2)
KR	3	Sly Johnson (Jr., 2)
PR	21	Eddie Tillitz (Fr., 0)

(#) Indicates number of returning starters
***BOLD** indicates returning starters*
NUMBER after class indicates letters won

Head Coach: Terry Hoeppner — **1998 Record (MAC): 10–1 (7–1)**
1999 Prediction: 2nd MAC East — **Yager Stadium (30,012)**

Indiana Hoosiers

48

Pardon Indiana coach Cam Cameron for repeating himself. He isn't promising anything out of the ordinary, but he certainly has hope. Just as he did last year and the year before, in his rookie season as head coach.

Cameron is entering his third season, and it looks promising with 17 returning starters and seven home games. After going 2–9 his first year in charge at his alma mater, the Hoosiers improved by two wins to 4–7.

What's next?

Dwight King

Antwaan Randle El

108 The total points Cam Cameron's Hoosiers have allowed rival Purdue the last two years in season-ending routs. Indiana managed to score only 14 total in those games.

"You can realistically expect us to get better," Cameron says, vaguely echoing his expectations of a year ago. "You can realistically expect us to up our level of play, in terms of how hard we play, another notch."

Quarterback Antwaan Randle El is back, fresh off postseason recognition, and he'll be playing behind a veteran line. Randle El captured headlines and Big Ten Freshman of the Year honors last season with his exciting style in running the option. He completed only 47 percent of his passes for 1,745 yards and six touchdowns last year.

The Hoosiers go into the season with plenty of choices but nothing decided in the backfield. Fullback was left vacant when Chris Gall graduated and it's expected backup Jason Spear, a converted tailback, will take over. Spear is quick and athletic, and he's got good hands. Frankie Franklin and Marcus Floyd likely will share the duties at tailback.

Youth has dominated the wideout position the last two years, so Cameron figures it can only improve. Juniors Tyrone Browning, O.J. Conner and Versie Gaddis, the fastest player on the team with 4.3 speed, are all back, along with sophomores Derin Graham and Levron Williams. At tight end, Craig Osika returns after making six starts as a true freshman last year.

The five returning starters on the offensive line from last season — four juniors and one senior — helped the Hoosiers average 195.5 yards rushing. Most impressive in a transitional year was senior Chad Miller, who moved to center from the defensive line. Left tackle Pita Elisara started all last season and earned postseason honors. Craig Robeen returns at right tackle, where he offers the experience of a 22-consecutive-game starter. Junior James Broyles and senior Matt Snyder are returning starters at the guards, but Snyder had knee surgery in January.

Defensive line is Indiana's strength, with the return of All-Big Ten Adewale Ogunleye, who graduated in May but decided to skip the NFL draft, where he was expected to be a first-round pick. Ogunleye is one of the league's — and perhaps the country's — most talented ends. He is IU's career leader in sacks (26½) and tackles for loss (53) and will be a Lombardi Award candidate this year.

Damian Gregory is an explosive tackle who had 54 tackles and five sacks last season, but an off-field incident prior to spring practice leaves his final season up in the air. Jason Czap started 11 games at tackle last season, but he is still recovering from a nagging wrist injury that could hamper his playing time.

At linebacker, Jabar Robinson, who owned the middle as a four-year starter, is gone. Strong safety Justin Smith has moved to linebacker, but there are several who played the position last season who are in line for starting jobs. Devin Schaffer, who along with junior Tony Brown played outside last season, is the leading contender to replace Robinson. Senior Brad Gecina started eight games a year ago and had 34 tackles and a fumble recovery.

The Hoosiers ranked third nationally last season in interceptions with 19, and all their defensive backs return except Smith, who moves to linebacker. Strong safety now belongs to sophomore Greg Yeldell, who had five interceptions last season. Preparing for the departures after this season of seniors Curtis Randle El and Mike McGrath, Cameron signed six defensive backs, including two junior-college transfers. Randle El has played corner and safety in his career. McGrath, a free safety, was second on the team with 80 tackles.

Andy Payne will kick. Punter Drew Hagan, after a 36.2 average last year, will be pushed by sophomore J.R. Drummond. Derin Graham comes back as the primary returner.

Depth Chart

OFFENSE (9)

WR	4 O.J. Conner (Jr.)	5 Levron Williams (So.)
LT	**74 Pita Elisara (Sr.)**	79 Doug Baumgarten (Sr.)
LG	**65 Matt Snyder (Sr.)**	70 Enoch DeMar (Fr.)
C	**77 Chad Miller (Sr.)**	James Evans (Jr.)
RG	**66 James Broyles (Jr.)**	76 Nate DeArmond (So.)
RT	**78 Craig Robeen (Sr.)**	64 Nick Abruzzo (Jr.)
TE	**89 Craig Osika (So.)**	81 Bobby Brandt (Fr)
QB	**11 Antwaan Randle El (So.)**	14 Tommy Jones (Fr.)
FB	28 Jason Spear (Sr.)	26 De'Wayne Hogan (Jr.)
TB	**31 Frankie Franklin (Sr.)**	24 Marcus Floyd (Jr.)
WR	**23 Tyrone Browning (Jr.)**	2 Versie Gaddis (Jr.)

DEFENSE (8)

LE	**93 Adewale Ogunleye (Sr.)**	95 Sean Nelson (Fr.)
LT	**68 Jason Czap (Sr.)**	97 Gordon Bramel (Jr.)
RT	73 Paul Mandina (Jr.)	62 A.C. Myler (Fr.)
RE	92 Kemp Rasmussen (So.)	72 Derek Barnett (Fr.)
LB	8 Devin Schaffer (So.)	47 Pat Kraft (Sr.)
LB	**27 Justin Smith (So.)**	**58 Brad Gecina (Sr.)**
LB	**94 Tony Brown (Jr.)**	51 Joslin Goodman (Jr.)
LC	**10 Curtis Randle El (Sr.)**	22 Sharrod Wallace (So.)
RC	**9 O.J. Spencer (Jr.)**	21 Maurice Tucker (So.)
SS	20 Greg Yeldell (So.)	34 Brandon Rodgers (So.)
FS	**38 Mike McGrath (Sr.)**	10 Curtis Randle El (Sr.)

SPECIAL TEAMS

K	30 Andy Payne (Jr.)
P	48 Drew Hagan (Sr.)
KR	19 Derin Graham (So.)
PR	19 Derin Graham (So.)

Indiana no longer publishes letters received

(#) Indicates number of returning starters

***BOLD** indicates returning starters*

NUMBER after class indicates letters won

Head Coach: Cam Cameron — **1998 Record (Big 10): 4–7 (2–6)**

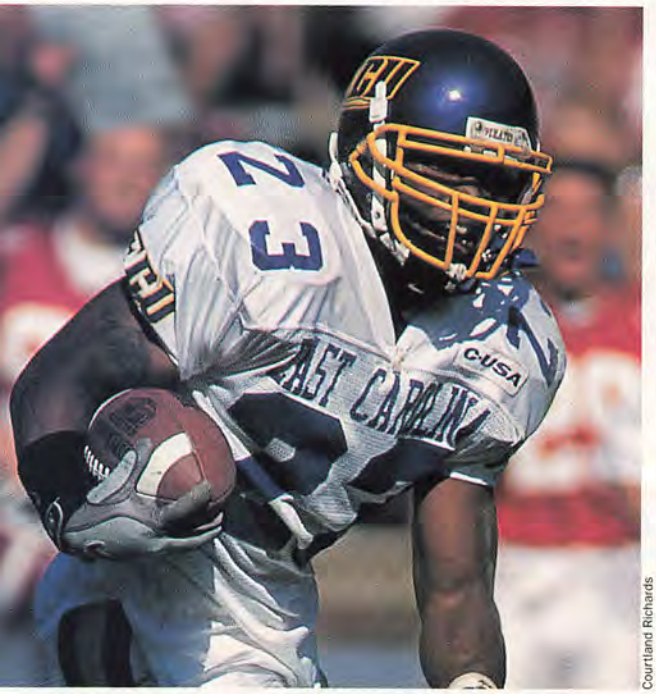
1999 Prediction: 8th Big 10 — **Memorial Stadium (52,354)**

East Carolina Pirates

49

Steve Logan accepted the promotion from offensive coordinator to head coach at East Carolina in 1992, with the intention of creating a tradition that would attract first-rate student-athletes in droves and draw fans to an expanding Dowdy-Ficklen Stadium.

Three years ago, his mission appeared to be on the fast track to success. Consecutive season marks of 7–5, 9–3 and 8–3 from 1994-1996 qualified East Carolina as one of the nation's top two remaining independents. Since joining Conference USA in 1997, however, the Pirates have only broken even at 11–11, including last year's 6–5 finish.



Courtland Richards

Jamie Wilson

61.6 Pirate quarterback David Garrard's 1998 completion percentage, a school record.

But Logan thinks he has isolated the causes of the backslide: yearly changes at quarterback and substandard play from the defense. "If we can get our quarterback established and play defense like we did in '94, '95 and '96, we'll get back to where we were," he says.

Instability at quarterback? Problem solved. In his first year calling signals for the Pirates, David Garrard set a new school mark for completion percentage (61.6) and threw 14 touchdowns with just seven interceptions. In the final two games of 1998 he was 61-of-82 for 730 yards and six scores. Against conference foe Memphis, he threw for a school-record 414 yards. And he was just a freshman.

Bobby Weaver was 37-of-55 with a pair of scoring tosses while backing up Garrard. Possibly the fastest player on the team, Weaver is most dangerous as a running quarterback and also can fill in at H-Back.

Junior Jamie Wilson and sophomore Leonard Henry, interchangeable 6'1", 200-pound slashers, accounted for 77 percent of the team's rushing yardage. Wilson picked up 647 yards on 138 carries; Henry 634 yards in 125 attempts. Both ran for four touchdowns.

Senior flanker LaMont Chappell registered a team-high six touchdown catches last year and should be Garrard's go-to target. Marcellus Harris' production slipped a bit after a C-USA all-freshman performance in '97 at H-Back, where Weaver is waiting in the wings. Junior college transfer Keith Stokes, a diminutive speedster, will have an immediate impact. Sophomore Arnie Powell and junior Delayo Dodd are vying at split end. Sophomore tight end Corey Floyd has a tough act to follow with the graduation of two-year standout Buck Collins.

Tackle Samein Jones and guard Sherwin Lacewell return on the right side of the offensive line, but the left side needs to be rebuilt and all-conference center Danny Moore needs to be replaced. Junior Anthony Nobles, who started most of the 1997 season at guard, has the difficult chore of taking over for Moore at center. A pair of converted defensive linemen, senior Derrick Gamble and sophomore Aaron Walker, will hold down the left side at tackle and guard, respectively. Depth could be a concern.

The devastating graduation damage on the defensive line was somewhat assuaged by the return of tackle Norris McCleary for a fifth year. McCleary's six tackles for loss tied for the team high, and he recovered three fumbles. He and end Marc Yellock will be joined by a whole new cast of characters, including Bernard Williams at end, either Tomha McMillan or Devone Claybrooks at tackle and Kwabena Green at noseguard.

The Pirates can claim two of the best linebackers in the conference. Jeff Kerr was selected first-team All-C-USA after leading his team in tackles with 115. Pernell Griffin notched 99 tackles last season on his way to Freshman All-America. He paced the Pirate D in stops in three different games as a rookie starter and added two sacks and nine tackles against Alabama.

Cornerbacks Kevin Monroe and Forrest Foster swiped four enemy passes each in '98, returning one each for touchdowns, and are back as seniors. They also play the run extremely well. Junior Chris Satterfield takes over full-time at strong safety after two years of regular duty off the bench. Sophomore Travis Mazyck moves over from offense to fill the opening at free safety.

Senior Andrew Bayes averaged 42.9 yards on 64 punts and also handled all the place-kicking duties in '98, and is expected to answer the call once more. Harris was one of the league's top punt returners last fall, and Chappell averaged 23 yards per kickoff return.

Depth Chart

OFFENSE (5)

SE	5	Arnie Powell (So., 1)	82	Delayo Dodd (So., 0)
LT	59	Derrick Gamble (Sr., 1)	73	Phoenix Evans (Fr., 0)
LG	77	Aaron Walker (So., 1)	64	Chris Nelson (So., 1)
C	76	Anthony Nobles (Jr., 2)	60	Rod Emery (Jr., 2)
RG	**74**	**Sherwin Lacewell (Jr., 2)**	78	Senter Currin (Fr., 0)
RT	**75**	**Samein Jones (Jr., 1)**	62	Robert Parker (Jr., 2)
TE	85	Corey Floyd (So., 1)	89	Rashan Burns (Jr., 2)
QB	**9**	**David Garrard (So., 1)**	7	Bobby Weaver (Jr., 2)
FB	**23**	**Jamie Wilson (Jr., 2)**	22	Leonard Henry (So., 1)
HB	4	Marcellus Harris (Jr., 2)	14	Keith Stokes (Jr., 0)
FL	**87**	**Lamont Chappell (Sr., 3)**	80	Aaron Harris (So., 1)

DEFENSE (6)

DE	34	Bernard Williams (So., 1)	8	Kevin Ward (So., 1)
DT	48	Tomha McMillan (Sr., 3)	91	Devone Claybrooks (Jr., 2)
NG	50	Kwabena Green (Sr., 2)	52	Mbayo Ahmadu (Jr., 2)
DT	**79**	**Norris McCleary (Sr., 3)**	90	Chris Howell (Jr., 1)
DE	**96**	**Marc Yellock (Jr., 2)**	3	Antwane Yelverton (Fr., 0)
LB	**84**	**Jeff Kerr (Sr., 3)**	55	Eric Reyes (Jr., 2)
LB	**47**	**Pernell Griffin (So., 1)**	33	Clenton Cochran (Jr., 2)
CB	**37**	**Forrest Foster (Sr., 3)**	11	Erik Hines (Fr., 0)
CB	**21**	**Kevin Monroe (Sr., 3)**	2	Charlie Robinson (So., 1)
SS	31	Chris Satterfield (Jr., 2)	39	Antwaun Cook (Jr., 1)
FS	6	Travis Mazyck (So., 1)	13	Antwan Adams (Fr., 0)

SPECIAL TEAMS

K	17	Andrew Bayes (Sr., 3)
P	17	Andrew Bayes (Sr., 3)
KR	87	Lamont Chappell (Sr., 3)
PR	4	Marcellus Harris (Jr., 2)

(#) Indicates number of returning starters
***BOLD** indicates returning starters*
NUMBER after class indicates letters won

Head Coach: Steve Logan **1998 Record (C-USA): 6–5 (3–3)**
1999 Prediction: 4th C-USA **Home Field: Dowdy-Ficklen Stadium (43,000)**

Boston College Eagles

50

The back-to-back 4–7 seasons Boston College has experienced the last two years have been roller coaster rides. There have been hard-to-swallow defeats against the likes of Navy and big wins against good teams such as Georgia Tech.

The Eagles are a team on the rise, but reaching the next level will require the sustained performance of leaders such as Chris Hovan and Pedro Cirino, and the emergence of young talents, perhaps Brian St. Pierre and William Green.

"That's what it will take," says head coach Tom O'Brien. "The big guys have to continue what they've been able to do, and some of the new guys will have to step forward."

Mike Montes

George White

3 The number of sports Eagle quarterback Brian St. Pierre excelled in during his high school career at St. John's Prep. He broke virtually every school passing record, was a two-time Catholic Conference all-star in baseball and led his basketball team to the 1997-98 CC title.

O'Brien took over a battered program two years ago and has employed a no-holds-barred mentality during recruiting to try and turn things around. Boston College's most recent class of recruits is considered its best in years, and O'Brien plans to put it to good use.

Boston College redshirted St. Pierre, and now he will battle junior Tim Hasselbeck for the quarterback job. Hasselbeck has a modest edge in experience, but St. Pierre has eye-opening size (6'4"), speed and skill. With Hasselbeck having paid some dues, he most likely will open the season as the starter.

The loss of All-America Mike Cloud leaves a void that may have been filled by recruiting. Green, a New Jersey product, is a *Parade* All-American and a bruising runner who takes his toll on a defense.

"He has breakaway speed, he has size, he has strength," O'Brien says. "He looks like he will be a complete package. We're very excited about him."

Likewise, Boston College is enthusiastic about J.P. Comella of Dorchester, Mass., who strongly considered signing with Syracuse. The Eagles could have a duo for the ages.

The team's top returning wideout is sophomore Dedrick Dewalt, who was sixth on the squad in receiving behind five graduating seniors. Freshmen Chris Barnes, a 6'1" burner out of Baltimore, and Keith Hemmings, another New Jersey find with special run-after-catch ability, come to Chestnut Hill with plenty of promise.

The offensive line will have to get the most out of Michael Cook, Butch Palaza and Paul Zukauskas. Cook and Zukauskas (both juniors) are the tackles, and a formidable duo they are. Cook is 6'5", 300 pounds and Zukauskas is 6'5", 306. Palaza, a senior, gives away some weight at right guard, but he is perhaps the line's most disciplined starter.

With defensive linemen like Hovan, Adam Grace and Mike Willetts, the Eagles are the envy of many. The senior Hovan, a two-time All-Big East performer, anchors the line at noseguard. Willetts lines up at Boston College's "cat tackle" spot, which best suits his big-play ability. Grace holds down the "boundary tackle" position.

Linebacker Andy Romanowsky played in eight games as a freshman, serving as Boston College's primary reserve. He's a reserve no more. The 6'2", 230-pound fireball joins senior Frank Chamberlin and sophomores Scott Bradley and Joe Mickens in the starting alignment. Chamberlin inherits the leadership responsibilities from Maye after a 78-tackle, two-sack season. A converted fullback, Chamberlin is one of the team's best athletes and has sideline-to-sideline impact.

Senior free safety Cirino posted a team-high three picks in '98. Senior strong safety George White excels against the run. Sophomore Jonathan Ordway, a track team sprinter who played wide receiver two years ago, and junior RaMon Johnson should open in the corners. Junior D.J. Sutton started the first six games of 1998 in one corner before a knee injury ended his season and is expected back full-speed, and sophomore DuJuan Daniels is considered a future star in the secondary.

Senior John Matich kicked a 53-yarder in 1998 and converted over 64 percent of his attempts, but he missed three inside the 40-yard line and may need to work on the medium-range kicks. Either Matich or Kevin McMyler should emerge as a viable punter.

Dewalt handles punt returns. Senior Carlton Rowe and junior Cedric Washington will get the bulk of the kickoff return duty.

Depth Chart

OFFENSE (3)

WR	14 Dedrick Dewalt (So., 1)	15 Kenney Gaskins (So., 1)
LT	**65 Michael Cook (Jr., 2)**	75 Marc Colombo (So., 1)
LG	50 Paul LaQuerre (Jr., 1)	62 John Richardson (So., 1)
C	77 Dan Koppen (So., 0)	72 Butch Palaza (Sr., 2)
RG	**72 Butch Palaza (Sr., 2)**	79 Matt Knapp (So., 1)
RT	**66 Paul Zukauskas (Jr., 2)**	76 Darnell Alford (Sr., 1)
TE	86 Bryan Arndt (Sr., 2)	82 Robert Ellis (Jr., 2)
QB	7 Tim Hasselbeck (Jr., 2)	2 Brian St. Pierre (Fr., 0)
FB	43 J.P. Comella (Fr., 0)	48 Ryan Utzler (So., 1)
TB	1 William Green (Fr., 0)	4 Carlton Rowe (Sr., 2)
WR	29 Chris Barnes (Fr., 0)	12 Keith Hemmings (Fr., 0)

DEFENSE (8)

CT	**98 Mike Willetts (Sr., 3)**	85 Antonio Garay (So., 1)
NG	**95 Chris Hovan (Sr., 3)**	94 Kevin Crane (So., 1)
BT	**92 Adam Grace (Jr., 2)**	88 Adam Newman (Sr., 3)
LB	54 Scott Bradley (So., 1)	51 Jerome Ledbetter (Fr., 0)
LB	**44 Frank Chamberlin (Sr., 3)**	37 Nick Blevins (So., 1)
LB	52 Andy Romanowsky (So., 1)	55 Steve Martin (Jr., 2)
LB	42 Joe Mickens (So., 1)	26 Curtis Bolden (Fr., 0)
LC	**6 RaMon Johnson (Jr., 1)**	25 D.J. Sutton (Jr., 2)
RC	**28 Jonathan Ordway (So., 1)**	32 DuJuan Daniels (So., 1)
SS	**40 George White (Sr., 3)**	8 Jason Smith (So., 1)
FS	**3 Pedro Cirino (Sr., 3)**	24 Carlos Moore (So., 1)

SPECIAL TEAMS

K	23 John Matich (Sr., 3)
P	47 Kevin McMyler (So., 0)
KR	4 Carlton Rowe (Sr., 2)
PR	14 Dedrick Dewalt (So., 1)

(#) Indicates number of returning starters
***BOLD** indicates returning starters*
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Head Coach: Tom O'Brien **1998 Record (Big East): 4–7 (3–4)**
1999 Prediction: 5th Big East **Alumni Stadium (44,500)**

North Carolina Tar Heels

51

Coaches and fans in the ACC focused a keen eye on North Carolina last year, eagerly watching to see if the Tar Heels would dip after Mack Brown left for Texas and defensive coordinator Carl Torbush was elevated to the top spot.

When the Tar Heels lost their first three games, including a shocker at Stanford, the second-guessers were everywhere. But then Carolina won seven of its last nine, including a 20–13 victory over San Diego State in the Las Vegas Bowl, and no one was quite sure how much, if any, slippage there had been.

Peter Brouillet

Ronald Curry

> **4** North Carolina is the only team in the country to win a bowl each of the last four seasons. Nebraska lost to Arizona in the Holiday Bowl to end its streak at three.

Ronald Curry became the starting quarterback as a true freshman when Oscar Davenport was injured early in the season. He finished with 1,394 yards in total offense, a school record for a freshman, using his quickness and instincts to rush for 419 yards.

Freshman Luke Huard, a former national Prep Player of the Year and part of the Huard family of quarterbacks, has established himself as the No. 2 quarterback.

Sophomore Rufus Brown has emerged as a steady running back. The first freshman to lead the Heels in rushing since Natrone Means in 1990, Brown isn't a flashy type but one who lowers his head and goes.

Sophomore Domonique Williams can give Brown some relief. So can Anthony Saunders, a sophomore who started at tailback in the Las Vegas Bowl. Senior Deon Dyer is back at fullback and is one of the ACC's more punishing blockers. He also led the Heels with six rushing TDs.

At wide receiver, the Heels need a healthy Jason Peace, a senior who tore his right ACL early last year. Peace's absence, however, did create an opportunity for Kory Bailey, who set a school freshman record with 38 catches and four touchdowns, and also had a 95-yard kickoff return for a touchdown against Georgia Tech. The Heels are looking to senior Greg Harris, sophomore Danny Davis and redshirt freshmen DeFonte Coleman and Chesley Borders to produce as well.

Everyone is happy to see Alge Crumpler back on the field. The junior tight end was seen as a potential All-American before tearing up a knee in the spring of '98.

Junior Cam Holland and senior Ryan Carfley both return at center, but both are coming off knee injuries. Senior Bryan Jones was consistent last season at both guard and tackle and will start at guard. Senior Mike Gimbol will battle at left guard with senior Joe Ellison. When senior Kareem Ellis was shifted from left to right tackle, the Heels won six of eight games, but he's moved back to the left side. Senior Allen Mogridge has emerged as a starter at right tackle ahead of 360-pound junior James Wagstaff.

The Heels must restock the defensive line, but tackles Sherrod Peace and Ryan Sims are a good start. Peace, a junior-college transfer, had 3½ sacks. Sims, a 300-pound sophomore, had 31 tackles and two sacks. Redshirt freshman Brian Norwood and junior Anthony Perkins could also be in the rotation at tackle.

Huge, athletic redshirt freshman Julius Peppers (6'6", 280) has emerged at one end ahead of junior Stephon McQueen. Joey Evans will start at the other end with Eric Davis in reserve.

Senior linebacker Brandon Spoon is still around, flattening ball carriers and calling the defensive signals. He led the Heels in sacks and was fourth in the ACC with 138 hits. Sedrick Hodge complements Spoon well. The junior, a former prep sprint champion in Atlanta, had 89 hits last year, including 11 behind the line. Junior Merceda Perry had 41 tackles and moves into the starting lineup.

Junior safety Antwon Black is the one returning starter in the secondary, but he has been supplanted in the lineup by junior Quinton Savage, who has shown a knack for making big plays. Billy-Dee Greenwood is secure at the other safety after registering 78 tackles last fall, 15 against Duke. Sophomores Errol Hood and Anthony Anderson got a jump on the corner spots in spring drills.

Bailey led the team in punt and kickoff returns, but freshman Michael Waddell set state and national records as a high school junior with nine kick returns for touchdowns. Punter Brian Schmitz averaged 44.8 yards, the third-highest in school history. Placekicker Josh McGee has made 35-of-51 field-goal tries in his career but had postseason surgery for a torn ACL.

Depth Chart

OFFENSE (5)

WR	12	Kory Bailey (So., 1)	6	Danny Davis (So., 1)
LT	**65**	**Kareem Ellis (Sr., 1)**	70	Louis Marchetti (Sr., 1)
LG	76	Mike Gimbol (Sr., 2)	56	Joe Ellison (Sr., 3)
C	**66**	**Cam Holland (Jr., 2)**	57	Ryan Carfley (Sr., 2)
RG	**55**	**Bryan Jones (Sr., 2)**	79	Isaac Morford (Fr., 0)
RT	75	Allen Mogridge (Sr., 3)	73	James Wagstaff (Jr., 1)
TE	82	Alge Crumpler (Jr., 2)	83	Dauntaé Finger (Jr., 2)
QB	1	Ronald Curry (So., 1)	9	Luke Huard (Fr., 0)
FB	**38**	**Deon Dyer (Sr., 2)**	32	Ronnie Robinson (Jr., 2)
TB	**7**	**Rufus Brown (So., 1)**	20	Anthony Saunders (So., 1)
WR	19	Jason Peace (Sr., 2)	30	Greg Harris (Sr., 2)

DEFENSE (4)

LE	49	Julius Peppers (Fr., 0)	93	Stephon McQueen (Jr., 2)
LT	87	Ryan Sims (So., 1)	90	Brian Norwood (Fr., 0)
RT	**89**	**Sherrod Peace (Sr., 1)**	58	Anthony Perkins (Jr., 1)
RE	95	Joey Evans (So., 1)	47	Eric Davis (Fr., 0)
LB	**52**	**Sedrick Hodge (Jr., 2)**	41	Quincy Monk (So., 1)
LB	54	Merceda Perry (Jr., 2)	36	Tim Burgess (Jr., 1)
LB	**44**	**Brandon Spoon (Sr., 3)**	48	Shawn Woodard (Sr., 1)
LC	11	Anthony Anderson (So., 1)	27	Jason Horton (So., 0)
RC	29	Errol Hood (So., 1)	30	David Thornton (Jr., 0)
S	26	Quinton Savage (Jr., 2)	**14**	**Antwon Black (Jr., 2)**
S	28	Billy-Dee Greenwood (So., 1)	16	Nathan Sutton (So., 0)

SPECIAL TEAMS

K	37	Josh McGee (Sr., 3)
P	23	Brian Schmitz (Sr., 3)
KR	12	Kory Bailey (So., 1)
PR	12	Kory Bailey (So., 1)

(#) Indicates number of returning starters
***BOLD** indicates returning starters*
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Head Coach: Carl Torbush — **1998 Record (ACC): 7-5 (5-3)**
1999 Prediction: 4th ACC — **Kenan Stadium (60,000)**

Texas Tech Red Raiders

52

A 6–0 start in 1998 gave Texas Tech the look of destiny's darling. Fate then turned fickle, as the Red Raiders lost four of their final five games by 14 combined points. The result was a 7–4 season that put Tech in the Independence Bowl, but left players pondering what could have been.

"We were happy to be in a bowl, but we wanted more," says tailback Ricky Williams. "To live all year with the fact that we were so close was hard. But it's made us hungrier to do whatever it takes to win those games this year and make this season very special."

Layne Murdoch

Ricky Williams

.6 Tech entered the 1998 season as the nation's leader in turnover margin over the previous five seasons. But the Raiders lost six more turnovers than they gained in '98.

Williams makes the Raiders' running game special, and the offense should be improved. But some deficiencies on defense could again leave Tech short of the Big 12's biggest prize.

At times last year, quarterback Rob Peters looked awesome. Other times, he was closer to awful. In the Raiders' 42–35 upset of Texas, for example, Peters passed for 322 yards and two touchdowns and dove in for the winning touchdown. One week later, however, Peters was replaced after completing 10-of-23 passes for 120 yards and committing a key turnover in the frustrating loss to Oklahoma.

A diminutive player, Williams may be the Big 12's next great back. As a sophomore in 1998, Williams rushed for 1,582 yards (fourth in the nation) and averaged 143.8 yards per game.

The combination of senior Sammy Morris and junior Jonathan Hawkins also gives Tech a strong tandem at fullback.

Junior wide receiver Derek Dorris proved to be an excellent complement last year to star wideout Donnie Hart. Now, with Hart's departure, Dorris (28 catches for 395 yards last year) must prove he can be the primary target. On the other side, junior Tim Baker is developing into a solid possession receiver.

Senior Kyle Allamon became a reliable target at tight end last year, catching 14 passes for 276 yards and two scores.

Tech loses starting right guard Erik Carruth and center Robert Haddon, but the Raiders' offensive front could be improved. Center Kyle Sanders and right guard Jason May, a sophomore, appear to be solid replacements. Senior Dan Martin has been a reliable backup. Left guard Curtis Lowery returns after a strong 1998 season, and right tackle Matt Heider has moved past Steve McFadden in the depth chart. The return of "The House," junior Jonathan Gray should wrap up left tackle.

The heart of Tech's defense is gone with the departure of All-America defensive end Montae Reagor. Fortunately for the Raiders, Reagor's mirror image, senior Taurus Rucker, returns.

The big question for Tech is on the other end, where junior Devin Lemons and redshirt freshmen Terrance Colquitt and Zeno McCoy will attempt to fill Reagor's vacancy. Inside, Tech is solid with the return of tackles Kris Kocurek and Terry Patton.

Athletic, hard-hitting free safety John Norman was moved to outside linebacker —the Raider position in Tech talk — in the spring, and coach Spike Dykes says he liked what he saw. The Raiders have several defensive players who will line up all over the field. Norman is an impact player and will be on the field at multiple positions. Senior Reagan Bownds is an excellent tackler and proven performer at the Raider spot.

When Norman is added to a linebacking group that includes returning starting middle linebacker Kyle Shipley and former starter at Raider Keith Cockrum, the Raiders are more athletic and could be more dangerous.

Norman's move to linebacker creates an opening at free safety for talented sophomore Kevin Curtis.

The secondary also appears to be taking shape elsewhere. Senior Oscar Solis is proven at right cornerback. The biggest concern in the secondary is at left cornerback, where Anthony Malbrough will replace the departed Darwin Brown.

Texas Tech loses its punter, which is a source of concern for Dykes. But at least placekicker Chris Birkholz returns. He earned a nomination for the national Lou Groza Award, hitting 16-of-21 field goals and all 23 PATs. Norman is a premier returner. He was named second team All-Big 12 punt returner and led the conference in kickoff returns.

Depth Chart

OFFENSE (8)

SE	81	Tim Baker (Jr., 2)	87	Darrell Jones (So., 1)
LT	**79**	**Jonathan Gray (Jr., 2)**	77	Paul Erickson (So., 0)
LG	**61**	**Curtis Lowery (Sr., 2)**	73	John DePasquale (Jr., 1)
C	59	Kyle Sanders (Jr., 1)	65	Anthony Patricio (Sr., 1)
RG	75	Jason May (So., 0)	69	Dan Martin (Sr., 1)
RT	57	Matt Heider (So., 1)	**71**	**Steve McFadden (Jr., 2)**
TE	**94**	**Kyle Allamon (Sr., 2)**	91	Tim Winn (Sr., 3)
QB	**9**	**Rob Peters (Sr., 3)**	1	Kliff Kingsbury (Fr., 0)
FB	**47**	**Jonathan Hawkins (Jr., 2)**	5	Sammy Morris (Sr., 1)
TB	**2**	**Ricky Williams (Jr., 2)**	12	Rickey Hunter (Jr., 2)
FL	**22**	**Derek Dorris (Jr., 2)**	85	Dee Jackson (Jr., 2)

DEFENSE (6)

DE	37	Devin Lemons (Jr., 2)	93	Zeno McCoy (Fr., 0)
DT	86	Terry Patton (Sr., 3)	97	Josh Page (Fr., 0)
DT	**76**	**Kris Kocurek (Jr., 2)**	42	Detwill Williams (So., 0)
DE	**89**	**Taurus Rucker (Sr., 3)**	98	Aaron Hunt (Fr., 0)
LB	**20**	**Keith Cockrum (Sr., 3)**	15	Dorian Pitts (Jr., 2)
LB	**83**	**Kyle Shipley (Sr., 3)**	53	Rusty Bucy (Fr., 0)
LB	26	Tim Duffie (Sr, 3)	52	Will Culpepper (Jr., 2)
CB	7	Anthony Malbrough (Sr., 2)	30	Antwan Alexander (Jr., 2)
CB	**28**	**Oscar Solis (Sr., 3)**	39	Derrick Briggs (Jr., 1)
R	23	Reagan Bownds (Sr., 3)	**38**	**John Norman (Jr., 2)**
FS	31	Kevin Curtis (So., 1)	29	Anthony Terrell (So., 1)

SPECIAL TEAMS

K	49	Chris Birkholz (Jr., 1)
P	25	Brian Roberson (Sr., 2)
KR	38	John Norman (Jr., 2)
PR	38	John Norman (Jr., 2)

(#) Indicates number of returning starters
***BOLD** indicates returning starters*
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Head Coach: Spike Dykes **1998 Record (Big 12): 7–5 (4–4)**
1999 Prediction: 3rd Big 12 South **Jones Stadium (50,500)**

Air Force Falcons

53

The only trouble with Air Force finally winning a Western Athletic Conference football championship is that the Falcons left themselves with no title to defend.

They're starting over in the new Mountain West Conference while trying to discover if they can win without a quarterback named Morgan.

John Hudetz

Qualario Brown

After five years of having brothers Beau and Blane Morgan at the position, Air Force is searching for a quarterback to direct the wishbone offense.

22 The Falcons have won 22 games in the past two seasons, a figure topped only by Tennessee and matched by Florida State, Kansas State, Nebraska and Michigan.

Otherwise, the Falcons have the ingredients to contend in the new league, even if maintaining the standards of the last two seasons — a 22–4 record — is asking a lot.

"We're building some tradition," says coach Fisher DeBerry.

Coming off a 12–1 season blemished only by a one-point loss at TCU, the Falcons are rebuilding only at selected positions.

One such position is quarterback. Cale Bonds struggled as the starter in the WAC championship last year, leaving questions about his ability to handle the job as a senior. He did look sharp in other games, including the 49–7 victory over Navy, but lacks Morgan's passing and leadership skills.

Bonds' experience gives him an edge, and he remains the front-runner.

Air Force's rushing attack never relies on one player. Junior Scott Becker and converted halfback Jeremiah Laster are the fullbacks. Junior Qualario Brown averaged 5.7 yards a carry, and he and junior Scott McKay are the likely starters at the two halfback positions.

Thanks to the Morgans, Air Force receivers became more than blockers and lonely sprinters. Senior Matt Farmer caught 35 passes for 650 yards, providing both a deep threat and mid-range consistency in the passing game. The coaches would love to get Farmer more involved in the offense on a regular basis.

Senior Ken Chandler is a solid blocking tight end.

The offensive front was a major concern going into 1998, and even longtime AFA line coach Bob Noblitt acknowledged his rebuilding job was "a little frightening." But he put together an excellent line that included three All-Mountain Division first- or second-team linemen.

Two of them — senior tackles James Norman and Mike Roberts — are back, along with junior center Matt Dayoc and junior left guard David Hildebrand.

Senior guard Paul Townsend alternated with Hildebrand and could move into the vacancy on the right side.

The Falcon defense lost six starters — including tackle Bryce Fisher, the Mountain Division Defensive Player of the Year — after ranking 11th nationally in total defense.

The line will feature senior tackle Shawn Thomas, a story in weight loss and gain. Thomas weighed a sloppy 300 pounds when he came to AFA. He lost some 60 pounds, and has regained much of it in muscle. Thomas led the Falcons with eight sacks and 15 tackles for loss.

Senior Brandon Sokora will start at the other tackle after playing considerably. Senior John Spolsky (5'11") is the latest in the Falcons' series of short, productive nose guards, joined at the position by former linebacker Buck Hodgkinson.

Senior inside linebackers Craig Thorstenson and C.J. Zanotti are tough and smart. They ranked 1–2 on the team in tackles.

At outside linebacker, senior Travis Meidinger was last season's success story. He went from fourth string to starter and should keep improving. The only new starter among the linebackers is junior Corey Nelson.

The cornerbacks should be seniors Nishawn Smagh and Tony Jones, who shared one position in '98 and have good coverage skills.

The safeties are more of a concern. Senior Jason Blevins, formerly the fifth defensive back, will have to take over for secondary leader Jason Sanderson at free safety, and senior Jeff Felton becomes the strong safety.

The Mountain West will be more pass-oriented than the WAC was in recent years, so defending the air attack is critical.

Senior Jackson Whiting will kick again. Junior David Adams is an excellent kickoff man. Senior Scott Gribben will punt. Farmer is a solid kickoff and punt returner. There have been 51 blocked kicks by the Falcons' special teams in the 1990s.

Depth Chart

OFFENSE (7)

WR	**6**	**Matt Farmer (Sr., 3)**	5	Ryan Fleming (Jr., 2)
LT	**79**	**James Norman (Sr., 3)**	78	Ben Miller (So., 1)
LG	**63**	**David Hildebrand (Jr., 2)**	76	Doug Charters (Sr., 3)
C	**61**	**Matt Dayoc (Jr., 2)**	65	Peter Lington (Sr., 3)
RG	70	Paul Townsend (Sr., 3)	74	Terrance Barreau (So., 1)
RT	**69**	**Mike Roberts (Sr., 3)**	60	Luke Porisch (Jr., 2)
TE	**83**	**Ken Chandler (Sr., 3)**	39	Andy Malin (Jr., 2)
QB	12	Cale Bonds (Sr., 3)	3	Mike Thiessen (Jr., 2)
FB	44	Scott Becker (Jr., 2)	26	Jeremiah Laster (Sr., 3)
HB	30	Scott McKay (Jr., 2)	27	Matt Rillos (Sr.,3)
HB	**25**	**Qualario Brown (Jr., 2)**	22	Chris Wade (Jr., 2)

DEFENSE (5)

DT	**93**	**Shawn Thomas (Sr.,3)**	95	Kyle Allen (Sr., 3)
NG	53	Buck Hodgkinson (Sr., 3)	38	John Spolsky (Sr.,3)
DT	89	Brandon Sokora (Sr., 3)	77	Rob Reinebach (Jr., 2)
LB	42	Corey Nelson (Jr., 2)	43	Jim Martello (Sr., 3)
LB	**47**	**Travis Meidinger (Sr., 3)**	48	Billy Wilson (Jr., 2)
LB	**54**	**C.J. Zanotti (Sr., 3)**	52	Matt Pommer (Jr., 2)
LB	**41**	**Craig Thorstenson (Sr., 3)**	58	Daniel Alves (Jr., 2)
CB	**20**	**Tony Jones (Sr., 3)**	1	Tony Metters (Jr., 2)
CB	10	Nishawn Smagh (Sr., 3)	23	Wes Glisson (Jr., 2)
SS	8	Jeff Felton (Sr., 3)	16	Charlie Jackson (Sr., 3)
FS	2	Jason Blevins (Sr., 3)	29	Travis Logsdon (Jr., 2)

SPECIAL TEAMS

K	96	Jackson Whiting (Sr., 3)
P	97	Scott Gribben (Sr., 3)
KR	6	Matt Farmer (Sr., 3)
PR	6	Matt Farmer (Sr., 3)

(#) Indicates number of returning starters
BOLD indicates returning starters
NUMBER after class indicates letters won

Head Coach: Fisher DeBerry — **1998 Record (WAC): 12-1 (7-1)**
1999 Prediction: 4th MWC — **Falcon Stadium (52,480)**

South Carolina Gamecocks

54

So, you're South Carolina and you've had 106 seasons of losing football. Meet Lou Holtz, who cut his teeth on programs like yours.

After two years away from the game, Holtz is back on the sidelines. But this time, he may have tackled his greatest challenge. The Gamecocks are 467–470–44 since they started playing football in 1892. South Carolina is coming off a 1–10 season, the worst in school annals, which was enough to get Brad Scott fired.

Steve Woltmann

Boo Williams

> **5** The number of guaranteed years on offensive coordinator Skip Holtz's contract at $120,000 per year, an unusually lengthy commitment to an assistant coach. Although school officials insist no under-the-table agreement has been made, Lou's son is thought to be next in line for the head coaching job once his 62-year-old father retires.

There is hope. South Carolina returns 18 players with starting experience. Plus, the good thing about going 1–10 is that just about anything qualifies as improvement.

"Our expectations are not 2–9, I promise you that," Holtz says. "We have high expectations."

Sophomore quarterback Phil Petty's strength might be that he has no glaring weakness, but he has yet to excel in one area. Petty, who backed up departed starter Anthony Wright, showed his versatility by running the option and showing effectiveness as a passer. He'll need to do all of that and more in this new offense, which thrives on versatility. And he'll need to stay healthy; untested sophomore Kyle Crabb is the first off the bench.

Senior Troy Hambrick has led the Gamecocks in rushing the past two seasons, but he hasn't been the dominant back South Carolina needed, despite averaging 5.6 yards a carry for his career. Boo Williams, who split time with Hambrick, is now the No. 1 tailback. The explosive Williams is the team's best open-field runner. Sophomore Antione Nesmith is the team's most physical runner and has the inside track at fullback.

Junior Jermale Kelly is the best and most reliable of the wide receivers. But he had a disappointing sophomore season (four TDs) after his 10-touchdown rookie campaign. Kerry Hood's speed makes him the most lethal deep threat and will put him on the field at one wideout. Senior Trevon Matthews has the best hands of the tight ends, and senior Jim Levandusky should see time as well.

To show how thin the Gamecocks are in the offensive line, senior Kevin Johnson moved over from defense, where he was deep on the depth chart, and immediately began working with the starters at left tackle. With a season under their belts, Philip Jones at right guard and Melvin Paige at right tackle should be better prepared for the SEC wars. Trey Pennington, a beefed-up former tight end, moves in as an undersized left tackle. Kevin Rivers was excused from the team in the spring for personal reasons, but is expected to earn the start at left guard.

Nobody plays harder than senior defensive tackle Cecil Caldwell, but he checks in at just 268 pounds. Junior college transfer Cleveland Pinkney should help at nose tackle. He has good strength and is hard to move. At end, sophomore Kalimba Edwards will handle one side, while Matt Marsters and John Stamper will split time at the other.

Junior Andre Offing has the speed and size (238 pounds) to make him a prototypical middle linebacker, but sophomore Kenneth Harney took the starting job halfway through last season as a true freshman and showed the instincts to be one of the school's best linebackers in years. Senior outside linebacker John Abraham has established himself as one of the best speed pass rushers in the league. On the other side, senior Corey Atkins is a three-year starter whose speed makes him tough to hit.

Fifth-year senior free safety Arturo Freeman is back from a torn anterior cruciate ligament that kept him out last season. The Gamecocks missed his presence as much as his ability. Freeman's return will help senior strong safety Ray Green and young cornerbacks Kevin House, Sheldon Brown and Rashad Faison, none of whom has distinguished himself yet.

Senior Steve Florio will likely replace classmate Courtney Leavitt on field goals. Leavitt was 4-for-12 last season, including six misses inside 40 yards. Leavitt will continue to handle punting chores after averaging 42.9 yards per boot. Williams will handle punt and kick return duties.

Depth Chart

OFFENSE (5)

WR	**84 Jermale Kelly (Jr., 2)**	82 Brian Scott (Jr., 1)
LT	97 Trey Pennington (Sr., 3)	75 Kevin Johnson (Sr., 1)
LG	**78 Kevin Rivers (So., 1)**	74 Jason Cox (So., 1)
C	70 Tim Bell (Jr., 0)	50 Scott Browne (Jr., 2)
RG	**65 Philip Jones (So., 1)**	59 Dennis Thomas (Jr., 1)
RT	**72 Melvin Paige (So., 1)**	77 Jim Pietrzak (Jr., 1)
TE	86 Trevon Matthews (Sr., 3)	88 Jim Levandusky (Sr., 1)
QB	14 Phil Petty (So., 1)	16 Kyle Crabb (So., 0)
FB	40 Antione Nesmith (So., 1)	39 Jonathan Martin (Fr., 0)
TB	4 Boo Williams (Sr., 3)	**19 Troy Hambrick (Sr., 3)**
WR	9 Kerry Hood (Sr., 3)	10 Carlos Spikes (So., 0)

DEFENSE (7)

LE	91 John Stamper (So., 1)	**94 Matt Marsters (Sr., 3)**
DT	**96 Cecil Caldwell (Sr., 3)**	99 Anthony Overstreet (Jr., 1)
NT	62 Cleveland Pinkney (Jr., 0)	73 Larrell Johnson (So., 1)
RE	55 Kalimba Edwards (So., 1)	93 Dennis Quinn (Fr., 0)
LB	**95 John Abraham (Sr., 3)**	51 Marco Hutchinson (Jr., 2)
LB	**44 Kenneth Harney (So., 1)**	**36 Andre Offing (Jr., 1)**
LB	**58 Corey Atkins (Sr., 3)**	41 Shannon Wadley (So., 1)
LC	24 Sheldon Brown (So., 1)	11 Rashad Faison (Fr., 0)
RC	29 Kevin House (So., 1)	34 Keith Knag (So., 0)
SS	**3 Ray Green (Sr., 3)**	20 Willie Offord (So., 1)
FS	12 Arturo Freeman (Sr., 3)	30 O'Rondai Cox (So., 1)

SPECIAL TEAMS

K	15 Steve Florio (Sr., 3)
P	7 Courtney Leavitt (Sr., 3)
KR	4 Boo Williams (Sr., 3)
PR	4 Boo Williams (Sr., 3)

(#) Indicates number of returning starters
***BOLD** indicates returning starters*
NUMBER after class indicates letters won

Head Coach: Lou Holtz — **1998 Record (SEC): 1–10 (0–8)**
1999 Prediction: 4th SEC East — **Williams-Brice Stadium (80,250)**

Oklahoma State Cowboys

55

Oklahoma State coach Bob Simmons says his players are committed to going the extra mile. Perhaps all the Cowboys really need is an extra foot.

OSU, a 1998 preseason pick to contend for the Big 12 South title, came within a foot of possible upsets of Nebraska and Texas last year. Those frustrating losses defined a 5–6 season of near misses. But Simmons hopes those close calls will provide the inspiration his team needs to take the next step. The Cowboys appear to have the talent to contend in the South and return to a bowl — if they can finish the job this time.

David Preston

Nathan Simmons

35 Number of consecutive games OSU has lost to Nebraska. The Cowboys have not beaten the Huskers since 1961.

In 1997, versatile and mobile quarterback Tony Lindsay was the Big 12 Freshman of the Year. In 1998, however, Lindsay looked more like a freshman. Despite his struggles, Lindsay passed for 1,442 yards and seven touchdowns, and added 592 yards and 10 TDs on the ground. Lindsay's backup, Chris Chaloupka, has transferred, leaving sophomore B.J. Tiger in reserve.

Simmons is excited about his situation at tailback. And not just because the starter happens to be his son. Senior Nathan Simmons is an outstanding runner who combines excellent power and speed. He rushed for 937 yards last year, averaging 4.6 per carry. Behind Simmons is junior Jamaal Fobbs, whose blazing speed and versatility enable OSU to use him at several positions, and sophomore Reggie White, who had an impressive spring. The situation is not quite as solid at fullback. Former walk-on Jeremy Halferty, a solid blocker, is the most likely starter.

Senior wide receivers Ethan Howell (4.3 speed) and Terrance Richardson, along with Fobbs, give OSU some big-play weapons. Senior Cameron White and redshirt freshmen John Lewis and Willie Young also provide plenty of speed at the wide-outs. Sophomore tight end Marcellus Rivers spent the off-season attempting to get his grades in order; his status is uncertain. Senior Garrett Steggs would play in his place.

All-Big 12 guard Adam Davis returns for his senior season as the anchor of OSU's front. Elsewhere along the offensive line, OSU may be a bit unstable with four new faces. Senior right tackle Andrew Golembiewski is expected to have an impact as big as his last name, but he must fight through a group of players. Josh Lind, last year's starting right tackle, and Reynell Lavigne are the top two candidates at center. Senior Blaine Cook, sophomores Jeff Machado and Bryan Phillips, and juniors Kevin Kemp and Lawrence Chamberlain are battling to fill positions up front.

Tackles Zac Akin and Cortney Mallory form a strong run-stopping duo in the middle of the defensive line. Senior Eric Stevenson also had a productive spring, while Simmons said junior Sean Barry impressed him in making the move from tight end to defensive end to compete with Zak Warner and Tanner Bruce.

While OSU may be a bit rocky along the defensive front and in the secondary, the Cowboys are rock-solid at linebacker. Explosive, big-hitting senior Kenyatta Wright is one of the best linebackers in the country and a leading candidate for Big 12 Defensive Player of the Year. Senior Tarrell Knauls also is an impact player. And with the return of proven performers like Jack Golden, Raymond Cato, Dwayne Levels and Troy West, the Cowboys have one of the best groups of linebackers in the Big 12.

While the Cowboys ranked in the Top 25 nationally last year in rushing defense, pass defense was another story. But new secondary coach Mike Cassity does inherit a few talented returnees and a handful of promising prospects. Free safety Adam Edwards is a returning starter; cornerbacks Marcus Jones and Evan Howell and strong safety J.B. Flowers were top backups and are seasoned. Newcomers like freshman Chris Massey and junior college transfer Alvin Porter could also be thrust into action.

Senior Tim Sydnes has developed into one of the more consistent kickers in the Big 12, hitting 15-of-18 field goals last year. OSU also received a surprising lift from punter Scott Elder, who averaged nearly 42 yards as a freshman. But perhaps the most exciting and dangerous OSU specialists are Fobbs and Richardson. Fobbs finished second in the Big 12 in kickoff returns, and Richardson was third in punt returns.

Depth Chart

OFFENSE (4)

WR	3	Terrance Richardson (Sr., 3)	17	Terrance Davis (Fr., 0)
LT	52	Lawrence Chamberlain (Jr., 0)	65	Kyle Eaton (Fr., 0)
LG	66	Bryan Phillips (So., 0)	72	Blaine Cook (Sr., 1)
C	60	Reynell Lavigne (Sr., 2)	**73**	**Josh Lind (Jr., 2)**
RG	**78**	**Adam Davis (Sr., 3)**	64	Jeff Machado (So., 1)
RT	69	Kevin Kemp (Jr., 1)	77	Andrew Golembiewski (Sr., 2)
TE	86	Garrett Steggs (Sr., 2)	80	Khary Jackson (Sr., 0)
QB	**10**	**Tony Lindsay (Jr., 2)**	13	B.J. Tiger (So., 0)
RB	**1**	**Nathan Simmons (Sr., 3)**	2	Jamaal Fobbs (Jr., 2)
FB	48	Jeremy Halferty (Jr., 2)	30	Kevin Brown (Sr., 2)
WR	19	Ethan Howell (Sr., 1)	12	Cameron White (Sr., 0)

DEFENSE (5)

LE	49	Tanner Bruce (So., 0)	88	Sean Barry (Jr., 2)
LT	**92**	**Cortney Mallory (Sr., 3)**	91	Chris Tyler (So., 1)
RT	90	Zac Akin (Jr., 2)	96	Eric Stevenson (Sr., 1)
RE	97	Zak Warner (Jr., 2)	58	Kevin Williams (Fr., 0)
LB	**32**	**Tarrell Knauls (Sr., 3)**	31	Terrence Robinson (Fr., 0)
LB	**7**	**Kenyatta Wright (Sr., 3)**	47	Dwayne Levels (So., 1)
LB	51	Jack Golden (Sr., 3)	**55**	**Raymond Cato (Sr., 2)**
LC	28	Evan Howell (Sr., 1)	22	Ricklan Holmes (Fr., 0)
RC	15	Marcus Jones (So., 1)	6	Alvin Porter (Jr., 0)
SS	25	J.B. Flowers (Sr., 2)	37	Justin Thomas (Jr., 1)
FS	**5**	**Adam Edwards (Sr., 3)**	29	Chris Carter (Sr., 2)

SPECIAL TEAMS

K	14	Tim Sydnes (Sr., 3)
P	81	Scott Elder (So., 1)
KR	2	Jamaal Fobbs (Jr., 2)
PR	3	Terrance Richardson (Sr., 3)

(#) Indicates number of returning starters
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***BOLD** indicates returning starters*
NUMBER after class indicates letters won

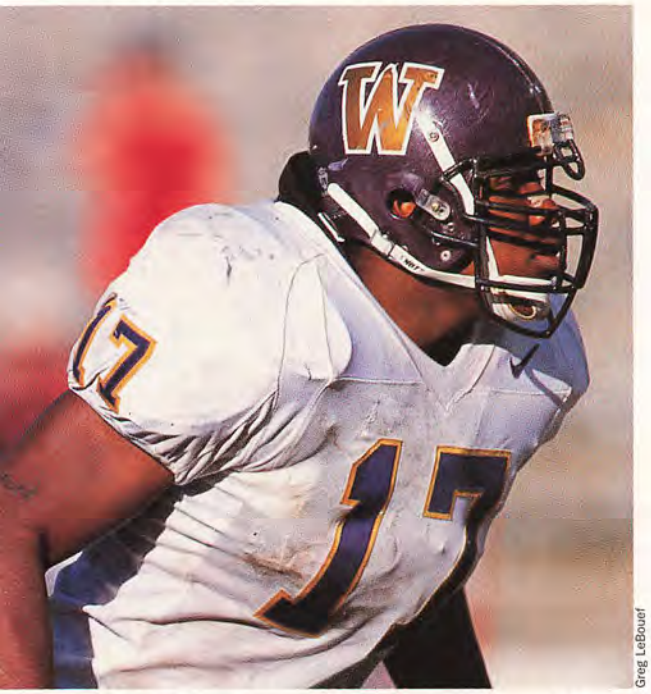
Head Coach: Bob Simmons — 1998 Record (Big 12): 5–6 (3–5)
1999 Prediction: 4th Big 12 South — Lewis Stadium (50,614)

Washington Huskies

56

As off-seasons go, Washington's was only slightly less eventful than an episode of "Melrose Place."

On Dec. 30, the Huskies called a press conference to announce the firing of head coach and former player Jim Lambright. That ushered in Rick Neuheisel from Colorado, equipped with a $1-million-per-year deal.



Greg LeBoeuf

Lester Towns

It wasn't long before Neuheisel and his staff committed three NCAA violations, including visits to eight recruits during an NCAA "quiet period" on Super Bowl Sunday.

No wonder Husky fans are anxious to get on to football and see whether their team can rebound from its first non-winning (6–6) season since 1976.

51 Washington finished second in the nation with 51 quarterback sacks, just one off the school record. Returning starters Jabari Issa and Jeremiah Pharms posted eight apiece.

Nobody, other than Neuheisel himself, will be watched more closely than Marques Tuiasosopo. Tuiasosopo has bedeviled defenses with his running ability and gives Washington a two-way threat for the first time since Mark Brunell in the early '90s. Despite starting only two games, Tuiasosopo was the Huskies' second-leading rusher in an anemic ground attack. His running ability may ease the need for every pass to be pinpoint. J.K. Scott has good raw skills but is unproven and will likely back up Tuiasosopo.

The Huskies have a clutch of running backs returning, but nobody jumped out a year ago. That leaves the door open for Paul Arnold, Neuheisel's most decorated recruiting catch, who by himself defined this as a good class. Willie Hurst, the rushing leader, along with Braxton Cleman, a bigger back, saw significant time as freshmen last year. Other candidates are Jelani Harrison and Matthias Wilson, while at fullback, pounders Pat Conniff and Maurice Shaw return.

A team that was largely without playmakers at receiver in 1998 should improve in this area. Dane Looker, a possession guy, is back along with rangy 6'3" Chris Juergens, who had 27 receptions as a freshman. Gerald Harris was a promising wideout until he was plagued by injuries. Ja'Warren Hooker dinged both shoulders and was ineffective all season, catching only nine passes. At tight end, there are several candidates, including Jon Westra, last year's starter, and Anthony Mizin.

The Huskies' long history of dominance on the offensive line was interrupted in '98. Now there are four seniors gone from that group, and uncertainty is the watchword. Chad Ward is the most solid returnee at one guard. Crucial will be the development of a mix between returning tackle Elliott Silvers and several backups: Rock Nelson, Dominic Daste, Kurth Connell, Kyle Benn and Matt Fraize. Immediate help could come from junior college recruits Adis Davtyan and Wes Call.

The defensive line is the most proficient unit on the team. In the newly installed 3–4, the ends will be two all-conference types: Jabari Issa, a quick ball-pursuer who notched eight sacks, and Mac Tuiaea. The nose tackle spot likely falls to either Nick Feigner or redshirt freshman Geoff Shelton. Worth watching will be a touted former juco tackle Toalei Mulitauaopele, who spent 1998 trying to adjust to major-college football.

When healthy, Lester Towns is one of the most respected players in the Pac-10, a big hitter who can run. He will be joined for the third straight year by Marques Hairston at inside linebacker. Jeremiah Pharms is a smallish but quick player who functions much like a defensive end. Derrell Daniels and Jafar Williams will duel for the other starting job.

After surrendering 1,229 yards in one three-game stretch, the leaky secondary didn't escape either the old UW staff or the new one. Neuheisel signed seven defensive backs, including one who may help quickly, juco corner Roderick Green. Jermaine Smith is proven at one corner, and Toure Butler has the experience edge at the other but will have to fend off Wondame Davis. Hakim Akbar was moved to strong safety, while the free safety spot will probably be a contest between Anthony Vontoure and Renard Edwards.

By default, the kicking job was added to Joe Jarzynka's kickoff and punt return duties last year. Now Jarzynka will have a placekicking challenge from freshman John Anderson, a *USA Today* All-American. The Huskies should be solid at punter with Ryan Fleming.

Depth Chart

OFFENSE (6)

WR	**80 Dane Looker (Sr., 1)**	89 Chris Juergens (So., 1)
LT	**68 Elliott Silvers (Jr., 1)**	79 Joe Collier (So., 0)
LG	69 Kurth Connell (Sr., 1)	Adis Davtyan (Jr., 0)
C	64 Kyle Benn (So., 1)	54 Matt Fraize (Jr., 2)
RG	**71 Chad Ward (Jr., 2)**	60 Dominic Daste (Jr., 2)
RT	55 Rock Nelson (So., 1)	76 Elliott Zajac (Fr., 0)
TE	**85 Jon Westra (Jr., 2)**	81 Anthony Mizin (Sr., 2)
QB	11 Marques Tuiasosopo (Jr., 1)	12 J.K. Scott (So., 1)
FB	**47 Pat Conniff (Jr., 2)**	32 Maurice Shaw (Sr., 2)
TB	**1 Willie Hurst (So., 1)**	29 Braxton Cleman (So., 1)
WR	4 Ja'Warren Hooker (Jr., 2)	9 Gerald Harris (Jr., 2)

DEFENSE (8)

LE	**78 Mac Tuiaea (Sr., 3)**	93 Toalei Mulitauaopele (Sr., 1)
NT	90 Nick Feigner (So., 0)	87 Geoff Shelton (Fr., 0)
RE	**95 Jabari Issa (Sr., 3)**	70 Larry Tripplett (So., 0)
LB	**4 Jeremiah Pharms (Jr., 2)**	53 Odell George (Jr., 1)
LB	**27 Marques Hairston (Sr., 3)**	58 Chris Waddell (Jr., 0)
LB	**17 Lester Towns (Sr., 3)**	42 Jeff Johnson (Sr., 2)
LB	24 Derrell Daniels (Jr., 2)	49 Jafar Williams (So., 1)
LC	**1 Jermaine Smith (Sr., 3)**	12 Omare Lowe (So., 1)
RC	**10 Toure Butler (Jr., 2)**	11 Wondame Davis (So., 1)
SS	**9 Hakim Akbar (So., 1)**	12 Omare Lowe (So., 1)
FS	26 Anthony Vontoure (So., 0)	3 Renard Edwards (Sr., 1)

SPECIAL TEAMS

K	21 Joe Jarzynka (Sr., 3)	John Anderson (Fr., 0)
P	16 Ryan Fleming (Jr., 1)	
KR	10 Toure Butler (Jr., 2)	
PR	21 Joe Jarzynka (Sr., 3)	

(#) Indicates number of returning starters
***BOLD** indicates returning starters*
NUMBER after class indicates letters won

Head Coach: Rick Neuheisel **1998 Record (Pac-10): 6–6 (4–4)**
1999 Prediction: 7th Pac-10 **Husky Stadium (72,500)**

Mississippi State Bulldogs

57

After a season that ended with trips to the Southeastern Conference Championship Game and the Cotton Bowl, Mississippi State fans are hungry for more.

Eight months after snatching a piece of the national spotlight, coming within six minutes of upsetting eventual national champion Tennessee, the Bulldogs coaches and players are starving for more. Nine starters, including three NFL draftees, are gone from an offense that produced better than 5,000 yards. On the flip side, all but four defensive regulars return. Add possibly the school's best-ever recruiting class and another SEC Championship game and bowl season are not out of the question.

Dwight King

Floyd Womack

7–0 The Bulldogs' '98 record in games that kicked off during the daytime. This season's slate has five daytime starts already set.

The Bulldogs enter the season with two proven winners behind center. Wayne Madkin led the Bulldogs to an 8–5 season and the SEC Western Division title, passing for 1,532 yards and 11 touchdowns. Matt Wyatt guided the Bulldogs to a 7–4 record in 1997 and played well in a relief role in the Cotton Bowl loss to Texas. Senior Rob Morgan has seen spot duty throughout his career and is quite capable, and redshirt freshman Brandon Butler has potential.

A stable of hungry young backs want a chance to replace record-setting tailback James Johnson. Chris Rainey, a hard-nosed reliable back, gets the first crack. Dicenzo Miller ran for 290 yards while averaging 5.3 yards per carry. But off-season shoulder surgery kept him out of contact drills in the spring, opening things up for bruising combo back Justin Griffith. And there's Dontae Walker, the most decorated back to sign with the Bulldogs in more than a decade. Fullbacks Rod Gibson and Kenny Williamson have big shoes to fill replacing Dennis McKinley.

The receivers are inexperienced but Kelvin Love showed flashes of his immense potential by averaging a whopping 29.6 yards on just nine catches. Matt Butler is slated to start at flanker. Harold Lindsey had a big spring and juco transfer Larry Huntington will push the starters. Heralded freshmen Terrell Grindle, Milas Randle and Kelly Shumpert could make some noise.

Tight end Terrence McCaskey is an NFL prospect. Behind him, there's untested talent in redshirt freshmen C.J. Sirmones and Ivan Billie. Freshmen studs Derrick Thompson and Lennie Day could provide immediate help.

Despite the departure of arguably the school's best-ever unit, the offensive line is still solid. Left tackle Floyd "Pork Chop" Womack is the only returning starter. Paul Mooney and Wes Shivers will take over at center and right tackle respectively. Shivers split time and played as many snaps as the starter. Kenric Fairchild, a converted defensive lineman, earned the job at guard during the spring. Michael Fair started only two games but played regularly. Redshirt freshmen Carl Hutchins and Kyle Wallace both proved in the spring that they're ready to play.

Undersized, and often the scapegoats when teams ran wild on the Bulldogs a year ago, the defensive front has received the biggest infusion of talent. Kevin Sluder and John Hilliard will start at the tackle spots. Conner Stephens and Cornell Menafee, both breakout players last year, will settle in as the starting ends. Alvin McKinley will move in at nose guard. Juco All-Americans Dorsett Davis, Toby Golliday and Willie Blade will push the starters for time, as will Ellis Wyms and Mario Haggan.

Linebacker Barrin Simpson returns for his senior season. When he's healthy, he's one of the SEC's best. Jamaal Dinkins and juco transfer Barris Grant will back him up if the team is not using a two-linebacker set. Both are physical and fast. Paul Hunter and freshman Nick Floyd add depth.

Other than the defensive line, the Bulldogs aren't deeper in any other area than the secondary. Strong safeties Ashley Cooper and Tim Nelson both return, as do starting cornerbacks Robert Bean and Kendall Roberson. Converted tailback Pig Prather could win the starting job at free safety. And providing even more depth is cornerback Fred Smoot, rated as the No. 1 juco defensive back prospect.

Scott Westerfield takes over at placekicker. Punter Jeff Walker (42.2 yard avg.) will also handle long-range field goals and kickoffs. Love will handle kick and punt returns.

Depth Chart

OFFENSE (2)

SE	8	Kelvin Love (Sr., 1)	85	Harold Lindsey (So., 1)
LT	**76**	**Floyd Womack (Jr., 2)**	72	Carl Hutchins (Fr., 0)
LG	71	Kenric Fairchild (So., 1)	79	Tron Thomas (Jr., 2)
C	74	Paul Mooney (Sr., 3)	51	Kevin Sijansky (So., 1)
RG	52	Michael Fair (Jr., 2)	70	Matt McRae (Jr., 2)
RT	68	Wes Shivers (Sr., 1)	75	Kyle Wallace (Fr., 0)
TE	86	Terrence McCaskey (Sr., 3)	83	C.J. Sirmones (Fr., 0)
QB	**9**	**Wayne Madkin (So., 1)**	7	Matt Wyatt (Sr., 3)
FB	32	Kenny Williamson (Jr., 2)	33	Rod Gibson (Sr., 1)
TB	37	Chris Rainey (Sr., 3)	27	Dicenzo Miller (So., 1)
FL	23	Matt Butler (Sr., 3)	80	Lorenzo Armstead (Sr., 3)

DEFENSE (7)

LE	**40**	**Cornell Menafee (Sr., 3)**	56	Bobby Pressley (Sr., 1)
LT	**48**	**Kevin Sluder (Sr., 3)**	92	Ellis Wyms (Jr., 2)
NG	97	Alvin McKinley (Sr., 1)	98	Mario Haggan (Fr., 0)
RT	**95**	**John Hilliard (Sr., 3)**	99	Dorsett Davis (So., 0)
RE	90	Conner Stephens (So., 1)	57	Nathan Jackson (Fr., 0)
LB	44	Jamaal Dinkins (Jr., 2)	59	Paul Hunter (Sr., 3)
LB	**45**	**Barrin Simpson (Sr., 3)**	54	Nick Floyd (Fr., 0)
LC	**13**	**Robert Bean (Sr., 1)**	16	Shawn Byrdsong (So., 1)
RC	**24**	**Kendall Roberson (Sr., 3)**	41	Emmitt Smith (Jr., 1)
SS	**17**	**Tim Nelson (Sr., 3)**	1	Ashley Cooper (Sr., 1)
FS	29	Pig Prather (So., 1)	3	Kenzaki Jones (Sr., 3)

SPECIAL TEAMS

K	11	Scott Westerfield (Jr., 0)
P	42	Jeff Walker (Sr., 3)
KR	8	Kelvin Love (Sr., 1)
PR	8	Kelvin Love (Sr., 1)

(#) Indicates number of returning starters
***BOLD** indicates returning starters*
NUMBER after class indicates letters won

Head Coach: Jackie Sherrill | **1998 Record (SEC): 8–5 (6–2)**
1999 Prediction: 5th SEC West | **Home Field: Scott Field (40,656)**

Oklahoma Sooners

58

While sharing a speaking engagement in Oklahoma City with Barry Switzer, first-year Oklahoma coach Bob Stoops received a crash course in OU Football 101. Win 84 percent of your games, 12 conference crowns and three national titles, and you'll be loved forever. A raucous standing ovation for King Barry at the luncheon made that perfectly clear. Fail to meet those standards, and the applause is replaced by U-Haul trucks and "For Sale" signs.

Peter Brouillet

Jarrail Jackson

With 16 starters returning and a young, energetic staff pushing the buttons, Oklahoma doesn't appear to be far away from being worthy of the applause once again.

70,778 The attendance average at Memorial Stadium in 1998, second-highest in the 1990s.

Stoops is installing an offense that mirrors the high-powered, balanced attack Kentucky has used the last couple of years. Now comes the challenge of finding a triggerman.

Brandon Daniels, a part-time starter, has moved to H-back. In his place, OU is counting on Josh Heupel to improve the Sooners' passing offense. Heupel enrolled in January and took the majority of the spring snaps.

Despite the departure of De'Mond Parker, there appears to be some talent in the backfield. Oklahoma will look to Michael Thornton, Reggie Skinner, Josh Norman and Seth Littrell for depth and versatility. Littrell is the leading returning rusher with only 205 yards.

At Oklahoma, the wide receivers have been little more than lanky offensive linemen. That trend will change to double slot and trips formations to either side. OU's leading returner, Jarrail Jackson, caught only 12 passes.

Ahmed Kabba is talented but has done little as a backup. He caught two touchdown passes in the opener, but didn't return to the end zone until the eighth game. Between scores he caught only three balls. Replacing Jason Freeman at tight end will be Matt Anderson, Chris Hammons or Trent Smith.

There may be no offensive position better stocked than the group up front, although it's the same unit that went through more makeovers than a runway model in 1998. Left tackle Scott Kempenich should retain his starting position, provided he returns from knee surgery. Adam Carpenter, who started the season at left guard, was also lost in the Colorado game and will return 100 percent. Bubba Burcham saw time at every position on the line and will settle in at right guard. Matt O'Neal is steady at center and Stockar McDougle should return to right tackle. Jay Smith will give solid relief at guard or tackle.

Stoops' press defense starts with disrupting at the line of scrimmage. That will be difficult with the departure of the Sooners' best defensive player, Kelly Gregg. But co-defensive coordinator Brent Venables says he likes the returnees, including Ryan Fisher, Jeremy Wilson-Guest, Cornelius Burton and Frank Romero.

Corey Callens, a two-year starter, will move from right end to the interior. There's also a chance that Darryl Bright, a backup end with two varsity letters, could go inside. If Bright can continue to build up his body over the summer, he would cause matchup problems. Callens' replacement at end will be Romero, who was the first true freshman to see action in '98.

A big reason for defensive optimism is the strength of the linebackers. Rocky Calmus was as good as advertised and Michael Dulaney was better than expected. Brandon Moore, Nick Simpson and Armand Spence round out the group that may one day be comparable to Kansas State's '98 unit.

Ontei Jones has moved from weak-side linebacker to fill Gana Joseph's strong safety position. In last year's scheme, Jones was sent on the blitz about 80 percent of the time. While he caused some havoc, he also got knocked around like a pinball at times.

Free safety Rodney Rideau may be displaced by J.T. Thatcher. Oklahoma also has a nice complement of players on the outside. Cornerbacks Pee Wee Woods, Mike Woods, William Bartee and Andre Woolfork will need to prove they can cover man-to-man. Woolfork may play some receiver, too.

Walk-on kicker Matt Reeves came through when pressed into duty during the Cal game, hitting two field goals. From inside 35 yards, he gave the Sooners a strong comfort level. Jeff Ferguson will probably handle the punting chores. Transfer Tim Duncan could also figure into the mix at either position. Kick returning is in a state of flux, although Jackson is in the picture.

Depth Chart

OFFENSE (8)

SE	5 Ahmed Kabba (Jr., 2)	17 Andre Woolfork (Fr., 0)
LT	**72 Scott Kempenich (Jr., 2)**	75 Mike Skinner (Fr., 0)
LG	**68 Adam Carpenter (Jr., 2)**	71 Jay Smith (Sr., 2)
C	**60 Matt O'Neal (Sr., 1)**	77 Josh Smith (Fr., 0)
RG	**59 Bubba Burcham (Jr., 2)**	63 Jason Bronson (Jr., 2)
RT	**78 Stockar McDougle (Sr., 1)**	65 Will Mathis (So., 0)
TE	90 Matt Anderson (Sr., 3)	81 Chris Hammons (Jr., 1)
FL	**1 Jarrail Jackson (Sr., 3)**	15 J.T. Thatcher (Jr., 2)
QB	10 Josh Heupel (Jr., 0)	**19 Jake Sills (So., 1)**
RB	7 Michael Thornton (Sr., 1)	22 Reggie Skinner (Sr., 1)
HB	**35 Seth Littrell (Jr., 2)**	8 Brandon Daniels (Sr., 3)

DEFENSE (8)

LE	**87 Cornelius Burton (Sr., 3)**	95 Darryl Bright (Jr., 2)
LT	**94 Ryan Fisher (Jr., 2)**	96 Jeremy Wilson-Guest (Jr., 1)
RT	**92 Corey Callens (Jr., 2)**	50 Greg Muhammad (So., 1)
RE	85 Frank Romero (So., 1)	48 Sedric Jones (Sr., 2)
LB	**46 Brandon Moore (Jr., 2)**	42 Anthony Davis (Sr., 1)
LB	**20 Rocky Calmus (So., 1)**	55 Michael Dulaney (So., 1)
LB	47 Armand Spence (Jr., 2)	58 Nick Simpson (So., 1)
LC	**2 Mike Woods (Sr., 3)**	28 William Bartee (Sr., 1)
RC	4 Pee Wee Woods (Sr., 3)	17 Andre Woolfork (Fr., 0))
SS	**11 Ontei Jones (Jr., 2)**	38 Roy Williams (So., 1)
FS	15 J.T. Thatcher (Jr., 2)	**45 Rodney Rideau (Sr., 3)**

SPECIAL TEAMS

K	99 Matt Reeves (Sr., 1)
P	83 Jeff Ferguson (So., 1)
KR	1 Jarrail Jackson (Sr., 3)
PR	1 Jarrail Jackson (Sr., 3)

(#) Indicates number of returning starters
***BOLD** indicates returning starters*
NUMBER after class indicates letters won

Head Coach: Bob Stoops **1998 Record (Big 12): 5-6 (3-5)**
1999 Prediction: 5th Big 12 South **Memorial Stadium (72,765)**

NC State Wolfpack

59

It used to be so easy for NC State. When in doubt, just throw the ball to Torry Holt and good things would happen.

But those days are gone. The All-America receiver is in the NFL and the Wolfpack is looking to somehow replace a player called "Big Game" by his teammates.

"It's going to be a major adjustment," quarterback Jamie Barnette says. "Things won't be the same."

Tim Clark

Jamie Barnette

But the Wolfpack again will be capable of scoring points in bunches. Given reasonable improvement defensively, NC State could again win seven games and get to a bowl.

"Even though Torry was the big-play guy, Jamie Barnette was the catalyst," says head coach Mike O'Cain.

3,169 The number of passing yards Jamie Barnette had last season, the fifth-highest total in Atlantic Coast Conference history.

It seems amazing now, but the State staff once wondered if Barnette was Division I-A material. But he has set school records for career passing yards and total offense, and could be the ACC's career leader in both categories with another solid season.

Junior Charles Berry again will be a capable backup. Berry stepped in against Georgia Tech last year when Barnette suffered a concussion and passed for 187 yards in the second half.

The Wolfpack had a 1,200-yard tailback last year. Well, kind of. Sophomore Ray Robinson, the ACC Rookie of the Year in 1998, picked up more than 800 yards, and senior Rahshon Spikes added almost 400. Robinson, a quick slasher, took over as a starter when Spikes broke a bone in his shoulder in the fifth game. Robinson then suffered a broken arm in the Micron PC Bowl, with Spikes powering his way to 176 yards in 24 carries. Senior Derek Roberts has never played fullback in college but might have to this year.

None of the available wideouts has the ability to match Holt or his numbers, but senior Chris Coleman could have a big season. Coleman had 52 grabs (fourth highest in school history) for 876 yards and five scores last year and has averaged 17.6 yards a catch in 33 games. Sure-handed senior Ryan Hamrick made some clutch catches in '98, sophomore Ricky Collins has ability, and O'Cain feels the Pack has a potential star in redshirt freshman Koren Robinson.

In the offensive line, sophomore Keegan Weir and redshirt freshman Derek Green are competing at center. Junior Jarvis Borum and senior John Fletcher both started games last year. One will take Rafferty's old spot at left tackle while senior Todd Boyle returns at right tackle. Junior Alex Rice started all 12 games at right guard. Alex Santos began his senior year as the starter at left guard before an early injury, with senior Ryan Knudtson taking over. Santos has been granted an extra year of eligibility.

The Wolfpack defense badly needs stronger, stouter play up front, and the line was made a top priority by the State staff in the spring. Junior Clint Johnson could team with sophomore Corey Smith at the ends, although they're being pushed by redshirt freshman Shane Riggs and sophomore Paul Whittaker. Sophomore Brian Jamison, who was shifted from linebacker in the spring, has 4.6 speed.

The Pack has five tackles who started at least one game. Junior Jeff Fisher had a strong spring, and juniors Rashad Streets and Jeff Kuh and sophomores Nate Goodson and Darius Bryant have had their moments.

Edrick Smith and Levar Fisher started the last nine games at linebacker as true freshmen, and while the effort always was there, the consistency wasn't. Junior Clayton White was a steadying presence on the weak side.

Senior cornerback Lloyd Harrison led the ACC with seven interceptions and was second-team All-America. Harrison and Tony Scott give the Pack a tandem that can go one-on-one with speedy receivers. Sophomore Adrian Wilson was penciled in as the starter at strong safety but injured a shoulder in the spring and underwent surgery. Redshirt freshman Terrence Holt, Torry's brother, could replace Wilson. Sophomore Brian Williams should open at free safety, and senior Eric Riddick is back.

The Wolfpack was shaky in the kicking game at times last year. Scott Earwood handled the punting despite a shin stress fracture, and some errant deep snaps on punts were costly. Kent Passingham gets a chance to win back the placekicking job he lost last year.

Depth Chart

OFFENSE (7)

WR	84	**Chris Coleman (Sr., 3)**	19	Ricky Collins (So., 1)
LT	68	Jarvis Borum (Jr., 2)	77	John Fletcher (Sr., 2)
LG	70	**Ryan Knudtson (Sr., 3)**	61	Alex Santos (Sr., 2)
C	76	Keegan Weir (So., 1)	76	Derek Green (Fr., 0)
RG	69	**Alex Rice (Jr., 2)**	77	Mel Quitman (Fr., 0)
RT	55	**Todd Boyle (Sr., 3)**	64	Tim Turner (Fr., 0)
TE	88	Andy VanDerVeer (So., 0)	86	Tramayne Simmons (Jr., 2)
WR	22	Ryan Hamrick (Sr., 1)	43	Koren Robinson (Fr., 0)
QB	4	**Jamie Barnette (Sr., 3)**	14	Charles Berry (Jr., 1)
FB	42	Derek Roberts (Sr., 1)	11	Quincy King (Fr., 0)
TB	17	**Rahshon Spikes (Sr., 3)**	5	**Ray Robinson (So., 1)**

DEFENSE (6)

LE	91	Clint Johnson (Jr., 2)	92	Shane Riggs (Fr., 0)
LT	90	Jeff Fisher (Jr., 1)	98	Rashad Streets (Jr., 2)
RT	93	**Darius Bryant (So., 1)**	97	Jeff Kuh (Jr., 1)
RE	48	Corey Smith (So., 1)	96	Paul Whittaker (So., 0)
LB	44	**Levar Fisher (So., 1)**	35	William Pannell (So., 1)
LB	53	**Edrick Smith (So., 1)**	57	Sheldon Kee (Sr., 3)
LB	15	**Clayton White (Jr., 2)**	16	Corey Lyons (So., 1)
LC	2	**Lloyd Harrison (Sr., 3)**	21	Marcelle Hough (Sr., 3)
RC	27	**Tony Scott (Sr., 3)**	7	Anthony Cason (So., 1)
SS	37	Terrence Holt (Fr., 0)	1	Kirk Badii (Sr., 0)
FS	29	Brian Williams (So., 1)	33	Eric Riddick (Sr., 3)

SPECIAL TEAMS

K	26	Kent Passingham (Jr., 1)
P	25	Scott Earwood (Sr., 1)
KR	19	Ricky Collins (So., 1)
PR	84	Chris Coleman (Sr., 3)

(#) Indicates number of returning starters
***BOLD** indicates returning starters*
NUMBER after class indicates letters won

Head Coach: Mike O'Cain | **1998 Record (ACC): 7–5 (5–3)**
1999 Prediction: 5th ACC | **Carter-Finley Stadium (51,500)**

Rice Owls

60

When he arrived at Rice in December 1993, Ken Hatfield was one of only three active coaches to lead three different programs to top-20 seasons. If the Owls' finish in 1998 is any indication, Hatfield may not be that far from developing his fourth top-20 program.

Although Rice finished a very ho-hum 5–6 last year, the Owls were a fourth-quarter interception runback at Air Force away from a first-place tie in the WAC Mountain Division.

Joe Robbins

Neal Gray

With schools like Air Force, Colorado State and BYU headed to the new Mountain West Conference, Rice, which returns a number of experienced players, including three standouts at quarterback, could be poised to challenge for the WAC title this season.

2 The number of interceptions thrown by Rice quarterbacks last season, an indication of how rarely the ground-based Owl attack threw the ball.

The key word at quarterback is competition. Three players — Jeremy Bates, Chad Richardson and Corey Evans — have all seen game action. Bates, who won the starting job last season, is back following left knee surgery. But so is the man who replaced him, Richardson, who ran for 224 yards in the win over Colorado State.

And Evans, a former *Dallas Morning News* Top 100 prospect, has the tools to be the best of the bunch.

The Owls lose a great one in four-year starting halfback Michael Perry, who led the team in all-purpose yards in all four of those years. The good news is that fullback Jamie Tyler, who scored both the touchdowns in the win over TCU, returns, as do a trio of halfbacks who saw some starting time a year ago: Leroy Bradley, speedster Anthony Griffin and Clint Leschber. The three combined for 754 yards last season while Tyler had 614.

Luke Barrett, who was recruited by schools like Arkansas, Purdue and Baylor, will battle Tyler for time at fullback.

The option-oriented Owls completed just 39 passes all season in 1998 and had just three touchdown passes, and the man who caught 22 of those passes, Jason Blackwell, graduated. The two top candidates, Gilbert Okoronkwo (shoulder) and Matt Webber (knee), are both coming off injuries. That might open the door for Mike Gingrich, who started two games a year ago, and Raphael Tillman. The situation is much more upbeat at tight end, where Shan Jackson returns, as does Brandy Manning, who started three games last season.

Three starting offensive linemen return, but the Owls lose a couple of good ones in All-America guard Charles Torello and four-year starter Mike Vietor at center. Still, the whole left side of the line remains intact with Rod Beavan at tackle and Neal Gray, who has 30 career starts, at guard. Right tackle Aaron Sandoval also returns. Matt Baldwin, who split time with Vietor last season, will inherit the starting center job.

Hatfield faces a major rebuilding task along the defensive front, as three of the four starters must be replaced from a unit that surrendered 382 yards per game a year ago. The only returning starter, however, is a good one: tackle Judd Smith, who had 37 tackles a year ago, tops for any Owl defensive lineman. Hatfield is counting on a talented quartet — Larry Brown, B.J. Forguson, Clint Johnson and Willie Merritt — to battle Jake Jackson for the other starting spots.

Outside linebacker Dan Dawson, who was the team's leading tackler (81) as a redshirt freshman, is the only returning starter at linebacker. Hatfield believes what the Owls lack in experience they make up for in solid depth. Joe Bob Thompson, Wesley Kubesch, Jarrett Erwin and Rashard Pittman are among those competing for the other two starting spots.

All-WAC corner LaDouphyous McCalla departs, but the rest of a secondary that yielded just nine touchdown passes returns, including hard-hitting safety Travis Ortega. The other returning starters are safety LonDee Smith (60 tackles) and right cornerback Adrian Sadler. Josh McMillan, who was McCalla's backup, will likely round out the quartet, although impressive safety Greg Gatlin also figures to see playing time.

Derek Crabtree was a perfect 5-for-5 on short field goals (long of 41) and made all 18 of his conversion attempts. Scott Grimes handles kickoffs and long field goals (4-of-9, long of 42) and also did some punting. Victor Young did most of the punting, posting a 38.5-yard average, but will be challenged by heavily recruited freshman Travis Hale.

Depth Chart

OFFENSE (5)

SE	16 Gilbert Okoronkwo (So., 1)	6 Matt Webber (So., 1)
LT	**66 Rod Beavan (Jr., 2)**	76 Anthony Mowry (So., 0)
LG	**60 Neal Gray (Sr., 3)**	65 Heath Fowler (So., 1)
C	67 Matt Baldwin (Sr., 3)	58 Ryan Pontbriand (Fr., 0)
RG	77 Joe Davis (Jr., 1)	55 Chris Bryant (So., 0)
RT	**73 Aaron Sandoval (Jr., 2)**	74 Billy Harvin (So., 1)
TE	93 Shan Jackson (Sr., 3)	86 Brandy Manning (So., 1)
QB	4 Jeremy Bates (Sr., 1)	**5 Chad Richardson (Sr., 3)**
FB	**37 Jamie Tyler (So., 1)**	28 Luke Barrett (Fr., 0)
HB	26 Leroy Bradley (So., 1)	18 Clint Leschber (Sr., 3)
HB	2 Anthony Griffin (Jr., 2)	18 Clint Leschber (Sr., 3)

DEFENSE (5)

DE	56 Clint Johnson (So., 1)	99 Donell Victorian (Sr., 1)
DT	**96 Judd Smith (Sr., 3)**	71 B.J. Forguson (So., 1)
NG	94 Larry Brown (So., 1)	90 Willie Merritt (So., 1)
DE	54 Jake Jackson (Jr., 2)	99 Donell Victorian (Sr., 1)
LB	43 Joe Bob Thompson (So., 1)	47 Rashard Pittman (So., 1)
LB	48 Jarrett Erwin (Jr., 2)	35 Wesley Kubesch (Sr., 3)
LB	**30 Dan Dawson (So., 1)**	53 Michael Lecclier (Jr., 1)
CB	24 Josh McMillan (Jr., 2)	9 Kenny Smith (So., 1)
CB	**27 Adrian Sadler (Jr., 2)**	7 Karlon Bedford (Sr., 3)
SS	**3 Travis Ortega (Jr., 2)**	40 Greg Gatlin (Fr., 0)
FS	**36 LonDee Smith (Jr., 2)**	13 Jason Hebert (So., 1)

SPECIAL TEAMS

K	12 Derek Crabtree (So., 1)
P	41 Victor Young (Sr., 2)
KR	27 Adrian Sadler (Jr., 2)
PR	27 Adrian Sadler (Jr., 2)

(#) Indicates number of returning starters
***BOLD** indicates returning starters*
NUMBER after class indicates letters won

Head Coach: Ken Hatfield **1998 Record (WAC): 5–6 (5–3)**
1999 Prediction: 2nd WAC **Rice Stadium (70,000)**

Illinois Fighting Illini

61

Illinois coach Ron Turner didn't win a game in 1997, and he could only muster three victories a year ago. But, if three critical components of his team come together this fall, substantial progress is in the offing. Turner says he needs much, much better play from the quarterback position, solid offensive linemen who can replace three lost starters and defensive linemen who can rush the passer.

David Preston

Kirk Johnson

"If we can answer those questions, I don't think (six wins) is unrealistic at all," says Turner.

194–65 Illinois was outscored by that margin in the first half last season when, it seemed, opponents took advantage before the Illini got used to the pace of the game and their offense got in gear.

He'll be aided by returning starters and/or key lettermen at no fewer than 14 positions, including Kirk Johnson and Kurt Kittner at quarterback; Danny Clark, Mike Young and Eric Guenther at linebacker; and all four defensive backs.

While some things change at Illinois — new players, new assistants, transfers and the like — one thing seems to stay the same: uncertainty at the quarterback position.

Turner hides nothing when discussing this topic. The play at QB has been erratic since he arrived in 1996, and that pattern must change and change immediately. Turner has juggled three different signal-callers in each of his first two seasons, but he's hoping to stick with one this fall. That job will likely go to one of three players: Johnson, Kittner or true freshman Christian Morton. Johnson, relatively efficient but not a player who pulls off spectacular plays, and Kittner, a solid passer, both started several games last year. They combined for three touchdown passes and 10 interceptions. Morton, a passer and scrambler, could be the answer if he's able to pass the college entrance exam.

Running back is arguably the deepest position on the team with at least four players competing for time. Rocky Harvey led the team last season with 634 yards and Steve Havard followed closely behind with 564 yards. Jameel Cook, with only 48 carries a year ago, will provide depth, along with Antoineo Harris, who missed last year due to academic problems. Elmer Hickman and Chris Hoffman will share the fullback duties.

Turner kicked two juco transfers off the team last year and lost another, Larry Davis, this past off-season because of family problems, depleting the receiving corps appreciably. Michael Dean, Terrance Smalls and Lenny Willis all return, but last season they combined for zero touchdown catches. Brian Hodges, a converted quarterback, started all 11 games at tight end last season, but only caught seven passes.

The offensive front is the second of three areas that must improve if Turner is going to get his six victories. Last year's crew allowed 27 sacks, and three of the five starters are gone. In addition to the pair of returning starters — Ray Redziniak at right guard and Marques Sullivan, who switched from right tackle to left tackle — Turner will turn to Luke Butkus (the nephew of Hall of Famer and Illinois alumnus Dick) at center, Chip Nicastro at right tackle and Jay Kulaga and freshman James Brown at left guard.

At times last season, opponents threw the ball at will. To turn that around Turner is trying to build a solid pass rush around senior Rameel Connor. Turner will also look to Jason Eberhart and Fred Wakefield. Inside, Mike McGee, Karleton Thomas and Brandon Moore all return.

The linebacking group will anchor the defense and fly around like never before if most of its members can stay healthy. Clark, who missed spring ball after shoulder surgery, will fill up the middle again after leading the team a year ago with 115 tackles. Young is also back, along with Guenther, who was granted a redshirt last season after going down with an injury in the second game. Robert Franklin, who finished second behind Clark with 86 tackles, will also play a big role.

The secondary is an area of strength with seniors Asim Pleas and Tony Francis back at cornerback. Pleas led the Illini with three interceptions. Bobby Jackson and Muhammad Abdullah are back at safety.

Placekicker Neil Rackers is back, along with punter Steve Fitts. Smalls is slated to handle the punt return duties along with Harvey, and Havard returns kicks.

Depth Chart

OFFENSE (4)

SE	1 Michael Dean (Sr., 3)	86 Aaron Moorehead (Fr., 0)
LT	**59 Marques Sullivan (Jr., 2)**	64 David Diehl (Fr., 0)
LG	67 Jay Kulaga (So., 1)	68 James Brown (Fr., 0)
C	71 Luke Butkus (So., 1)	76 Brian Scott (Sr., 0)
RG	**69 Ray Redziniak (Jr., 2)**	54 Ed Donoghue (Fr., 0)
RT	75 Chip Nicastro (Sr., 1)	79 Tony Pashos (Fr., 0)
TE	**80 Brian Hodges (So., 1)**	87 Josh Whitman (Jr., 2)
QB	9 Kirk Johnson (Sr., 1)	15 Kurt Kittner (So., 1)
RB	**38 Steve Havard (Sr., 3)**	23 Rocky Harvey (So., 1)
FB	32 Elmer Hickman (Sr., 2)	49 Chris Hoffman (Sr., 3)
FL	21 Lenny Willis (Sr., 3)	4 Terrance Smalls (Sr., 1)

DEFENSE (9)

DE	**95 Rameel Connor (Sr., 2)**	90 Robby Long (So., 0)
DT	**85 Mike McGee (Sr., 3)**	92 Karleton Thomas (Jr., 2)
DT	96 Brandon Moore (So., 1)	70 Matt Carlton (Sr., 1)
DE	**97 Jason Eberhart (Jr., 2)**	99 Fred Wakefield (Jr., 2)
LB	**48 Danny Clark (Sr., 3)**	47 Mon Long (Jr., 2)
LB	41 Eric Guenther (Sr., 3)	**30 Robert Franklin (Jr., 2)**
LB	**52 Mike Young (Jr., 2)**	20 Eric Garrett (Jr., 2)
CB	**33 Tony Francis (Sr., 3)**	43 Anthony Hurd (So., 1)
CB	**24 Asim Pleas (Sr., 3)**	29 Johnny Rogers (Sr., 1)
SS	**2 Bobby Jackson (Jr., 2)**	5 Bobby Brown (So., 0)
FS	7 Muhammad Abdullah (So., 1)	16 Roy Sessions (Jr., 0)

SPECIAL TEAMS

K	98 Neil Rackers (Sr., 3)
P	10 Steve Fitts (So., 1)
KR	38 Steve Havard (Sr., 3)
PR	4 Terrance Smalls (Sr., 1)

(#) Indicates number of returning starters
***BOLD** indicates returning starters*
NUMBER after class indicates letters won

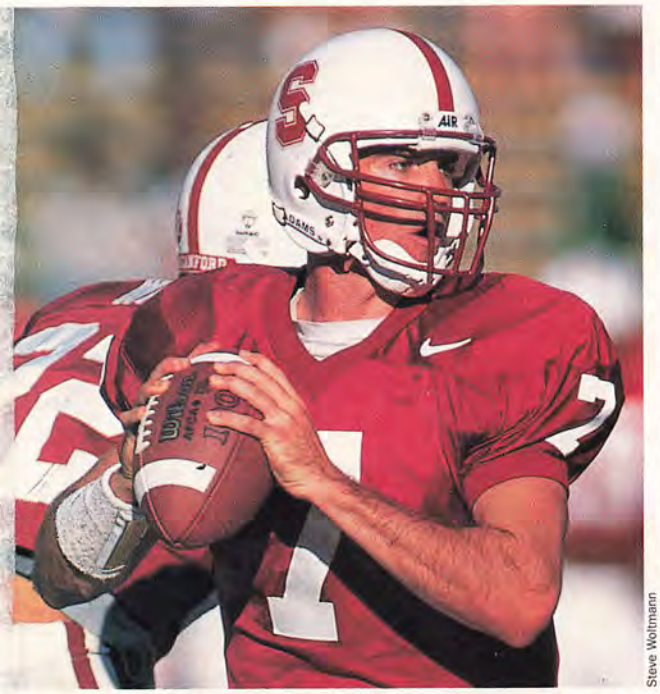
Head Coach: Ron Turner — **1998 Record (Big 10): 3–8 (2–6)**
1999 Prediction: 9th Big 10 — **Memorial Stadium (70,904)**

Stanford Cardinal

62

The trend is discouraging. Stanford was 7–4–1 in Tyrone Willingham's first season, 7–5 in his second, 5–6 in his third and 3–8 last year, which was Willingham's first team built primarily with his recruits.

Stanford should be improved, with 18 starters back. The Cardinal will have an effective and entertaining passing game again, but questions about the running game and the defense will make a bowl berth a difficult goal to achieve.



Steve Woltmann

Todd Husak

Willingham fired defensive coordinator Bill Harris after the Cardinal finished last in the Pac-10 in defense and promoted linebackers coach Kent Baer, who plans to simplify things.

9 The number of players Stanford lost from last year's 99-player roster.

Creative offensive coordinator Bill Diedrick uses strong-armed Joe Borchard at quarterback in shotgun formations, and uses speedy Randy Fasani in short-yardage situations. But he uses Todd Husak most of the time, because Husak knows the offense. Husak, the unquestioned starter, has only average speed and average arm strength, but he knows what to do and when to do it, and he gets the ball where it needs to go.

Stanford desperately needs a consistent ground-gainer, and although Willingham prefers to redshirt incoming freshmen, he may give Kerry Carter a shot if he can get the tough yards. Coy Wire is Stanford's best returning running back package, and his versatility makes him suitable to Stanford's one-back sets. Juan-Carlos Lacey shows glimpses of breakaway ability, but his durability and consistency are questions. Stanford seldom asks its fullback to run the ball, and Maxwell Stevenson is an adequate blocker.

The Cardinal has plenty of receivers to plug into its various spread formations. DeRonnie Pitts had 74 catches last season. Dave Davis, who had 48 receptions, may be the Cardinal's most athletic receiver.

But the star is Troy Walters, a 5'8" combination of speed, skill and know-how who caught 52 passes despite missing the better part of four games with an ankle injury. Walters is already Stanford's record-holder in career receiving yardage. No Pac-10 team — and perhaps no team in the country — can claim a better trio of wide receivers. The Cardinal doesn't use its tight end much, but Russell Stewart is adequate.

The only two departed offensive starters played on the line. Center Mike McLaughlin is reliable, having started 34 straight games, and tackle Jeff Cronshagen should be adequate. A potential star is sophomore guard Eric Heitmann, who got some playing time as a freshman and could be ready to make an impact.

Zack Quaccia has a chance to beat out returning starter Joe Fairchild at the other guard spot, but the Cardinal may have problems at right tackle. Greg Schindler and Paul Weinacht, non-lettering sophomores, are contending for that job.

On the defensive side, tackle Willie Howard weighs nearly 300 pounds but can catch tailbacks from behind. He should be all-conference this season. Andrew Currie is a good technician at nose tackle, and redshirt freshman Matt Leonard is ready to contribute. Getting an outside pass rush may be a problem now that Riall Johnson, who led the team in sacks last season, has been moved from defensive end to linebacker. Sam Benner should be better with a year's experience at one end spot, and sophomore Austin Lee and junior Marcus Hoover have the potential to be effective.

Stanford lost its best defender, outside 'backer Donnie Spragan, and returns two adequate inside linebackers, Sharcus Steen and Marc Stockbauer. Neither is particularly intimidating, and there is a reason opponents averaged 4.4 yards per rushing attempt last season.

Johnson is the key to the defense. He has all the physical attributes to make big plays at the outside linebacker spot.

Free safety Tim Smith never quite returned to peak form last season following his 1997 torn ACL, but he should now be the big-play defender he was three years ago. The strong safety spot is a concern; Simba Hodari is the front-runner. Cornerback Chris Johnson is the team's best man-to-man defender, while Ruben Carter plays opposite him.

Walters is an excellent punt-returner and would do as well as a kick-returner, although he will battle Wire for that role. Mike Biselli may end up being the kicker, but he has not established consistency. The only punter on the roster is walk-on Sean Tolpinrud.

Depth Chart

OFFENSE (9)

WR	**2 DeRonnie Pitts (Sr., 2)**	81 Dave Davis (Jr., 1)
LT	**79 Jeff Cronshagen (Sr., 3)**	76 Paul Weinacht (So., 0)
LG	**67 Joe Fairchild (Sr., 2)**	60 Zack Quaccia (Jr., 1)
C	**73 Mike McLaughlin (Sr., 3)**	61 Brad Selby (So., 0)
RG	75 Eric Heitmann (So., 1)	62 Jon Abendschein (Sr., 0)
RT	69 Greg Schindler (So., 0)	76 Paul Weinacht (So., 0)
TE	**84 Russell Stewart (Sr., 2)**	82 Steve Coughlin (Sr., 1)
QB	**7 Todd Husak (Sr., 3)**	12 Randy Fasani (Jr., 1)
FB	**36 Maxwell Stevenson (Sr., 1)**	25 Emory Brock (Sr., 2)
RB	**22 Coy Wire (Jr., 1)**	8 Juan-Carlos Lacey (Sr., 1)
WR	**5 Troy Walters (Sr., 3)**	87 Ryan Fernandez (So., 1)

DEFENSE (9)

LE	**70 Sam Benner (Sr., 1)**	92 Marcus Hoover (Jr., 1)
DT	**77 Willie Howard (Sr., 2)**	71 Dorean Kass (Sr., 1)
NT	**99 Andrew Currie (Sr., 3)**	78 Travis Pfeifer (Jr., 1)
RE	94 Austin Lee (Jr., 1)	98 Matt Leonard (So., 0)
LB	**97 Riall Johnson (Sr., 2)**	58 John Sande (Sr., 2)
LB	**90 Marc Stockbauer (Sr., 3)**	50 Mike Burke (Jr., 1)
LB	**53 Sharcus Steen (Sr., 3)**	51 Matt Friedrichs (Jr., 1)
LC	**29 Chris Johnson (Sr., 3)**	47 Frank Primus (Sr., 3)
RC	**42 Ruben Carter (Jr., 1)**	37 Brian Taylor (So., 1)
SS	45 Simba Hodari (Jr., 1)	26 Aaron Focht (Sr., 1)
FS	**10 Tim Smith (Sr., 2)**	13 Tank Williams (So., 1)

SPECIAL TEAMS

K	9 Mike Biselli (Jr., 0)	
P	94 Sean Tolpinrud (Jr., 0)	
KR	22 Coy Wire (Jr., 1)	
PR	5 Troy Walters (Sr., 3)	

(#) Indicates number of returning starters
***BOLD** indicates returning starters*
NUMBER after class indicates letters won

Head Coach: Tyrone Willingham **1998 Record (Pac-10): 3–8 (2–6)**
1999 Prediction: 8th Pac-10 **Stanford Stadium (85,500)**

Baylor Bears

63

As he takes over a program that hasn't won a conference title outright in two decades and hasn't won more than two games in a season since 1996, Baylor coach Kevin Steele doesn't face tremendous pressure to win immediately. But that hasn't stopped Steele from heaping some pressure on himself.

Stephen Dunn/Allsport

Darrell Bush

"I do not think this (program) is at rock bottom," says Steele, who was most recently a defensive assistant with the Carolina Panthers. "It's perceived to be in worse shape than it actually is. Somebody said, 'That's not a good thing to say because you're putting pressure on yourself.' But that's the way I feel, and I'll accept the pressure."

106 Baylor's national ranking in total offense last year. The Bears, who were dead last in the Big 12, also were last in the league in total defense (101st nationally).

Steele's optimistic outlook isn't without merit. The Bears return 17 starters from a team that came within three points of upsetting Colorado and Texas Tech and had Texas on the ropes. Baylor could be vastly improved under Steele, and with a few good breaks, the Bears' record could also be considerably better.

Steele says his offensive philosophy will be similar to the Dallas Cowboys under Jimmy Johnson. Unfortunately for the Bears, there doesn't appear to be a budding Troy Aikman on the roster.

Senior Jermaine Alfred and junior Odell James split time under center throughout much of last year, but both were plagued by inconsistency. Alfred is an adequate passer (51.6 percent completion rate), while James is a more dangerous runner.

Neither of those players, however, elicits a tremendous amount of excitement among Baylor fans.

How Baylor finished dead last in rushing in the Big 12 last season is a bit of a mystery. After all, the running back position appears to be a strong point.

Junior tailback Darrell Bush, who broke Baylor's freshman rushing record in 1997, returns after a sub-par season (357 yards on 105 carries) in 1998. Bush also has some talented company at tailback. Senior Elijah Burkins is an exciting, elusive runner.

At fullback, junior Derek Lagway is a solid blocker and the Bears' leading returning receiver.

Sophomore Andra Fuller is the Bears' leading returning wide receiver, catching six passes for 50 yards last year. At tight end, sophomore Andrew Obriotti and junior Brandon Thompson return.

The offensive line is a weak point. Sophomore left tackle Greg Jerman may be Baylor's best blocker, while junior right tackle Tyshaun Whitson has the size (6'6", 310) and the strength to control his opponents. Sophomore center/guard Joe Jackson, who is a bit undersized but is extremely aggressive, has been impressive. Chris Watton is a returning starter with size (306 pounds) at right guard, while redshirt freshman Ethan Kelley is penciled in at left guard.

The good news is that Baylor returns virtually everybody who contributed to the defensive line last year. The bad news is that those returnees contributed to a defense that surrendered more than 440 yards per game in 1998.

Senior Dwight Johnson tied for the team lead with five sacks while playing three different positions along the defensive front and has shown flashes of excellence. Senior end Justin Snow should step into a starting role. Senior James Calvin started the final three games of last season at nose tackle.

Baylor's linebackers were decent last year, but they have a chance to be far better in '99. Junior middle linebacker Kris Micheaux is a gritty, tough player and a tenacious tackler.

So is senior outside linebacker Jason Jackson, who led the Bears with 10 tackles for loss last season. On the other side, junior McKinley Bowie returns after a solid season. Senior Rodney Smith, last year's starting strong safety and leading tackler (106 total stops, including four for loss) has been moved to outside linebacker.

The secondary looks promising. Juniors Gary Baxter, Daniel Wilturner and Samir Al-Amin and senior Robert Neal give the Bears some athletic, quality cornerbacks. Senior free safety Sean Armistead is an excellent tackler (90 stops last year), while senior Curtis Henderson and junior Tommie Black form a solid combination to replace Smith at strong safety.

Senior Kyle Atteberry will punt and kick. Fuller is an exciting punt returner, while Burkins is a dangerous kickoff return man.

Depth Chart

OFFENSE (7)

SE	1 Andra Fuller (So., 1)	7 Kyle Staudt (So., 0)
LT	**52 Greg Jerman (So., 1)**	76 Carlos Rocha (Sr., 0)
LG	57 Ethan Kelley (Fr., 0)	77 Luke Nichols (Jr., 2)
C	**50 Joe Jackson (So., 1)**	71 Jon Erickson (So., 0)
RG	**64 Chris Watton (Sr., 1)**	62 Derrick Pearcy (Fr., 0)
RT	72 Tyshaun Whitson (Jr., 0)	76 Carlos Rocha (Sr., 0)
TE	**89 Andrew Obriotti (So., 1)**	44 Brandon Thompson (Jr., 2)
QB	**17 Jermaine Alfred (Sr., 3)**	5 Odell James (Jr., 2)
FB	**4 Derek Lagway (Jr., 2)**	35 Melvin Barnett (So., 1)
TB	**6 Darrell Bush (Jr., 2)**	11 Elijah Burkins (Sr., 3)
FL	19 Martin Dossett (Jr., 2)	28 Bobby Darnell (Fr., 0)

DEFENSE (10)

DE	**90 Eddrick Brooks (Sr., 1)**	53 Fred Rogers (Sr., 1)
DT	**82 Dwight Johnson (Sr., 3)**	95 Ryan Gillenwater (So., 1)
DT	**91 James Calvin (Sr., 3)**	96 Ronald Smith (Jr., 1)
DE	83 Justin Snow (Sr., 3)	48 Charles Foster (Sr., 3)
LB	**12 McKinley Bowie (Jr., 2)**	40 Andre Taylor (Sr., 1)
LB	**45 Kris Micheaux (Jr., 2)**	36 Jason Lary (Jr., 2)
LB	**55 Jason Jackson (Sr., 3)**	**14 Rodney Smith (Sr., 3)**
CB	23 Robert Neal (Sr., 3)	2 Daniel Wilturner (Jr., 1)
CB	**18 Gary Baxter (Jr., 2)**	16 Samir Al-Amin (Jr., 2)
SS	46 Curtis Henderson (Sr., 2)	42 Tommie Black (Jr., 0)
FS	**21 Sean Armistead (Sr., 2)**	**3 Allen Pace (Jr., 2)**

SPECIAL TEAMS

K	33 Kyle Atteberry (Sr., 3)
P	33 Kyle Atteberry (Sr., 3)
KR	11 Elijah Burkins (Sr., 3)
PR	1 Andra Fuller (So., 1)

(#) Indicates number of returning starters
***BOLD** indicates returning starters*
NUMBER after class indicates letters won

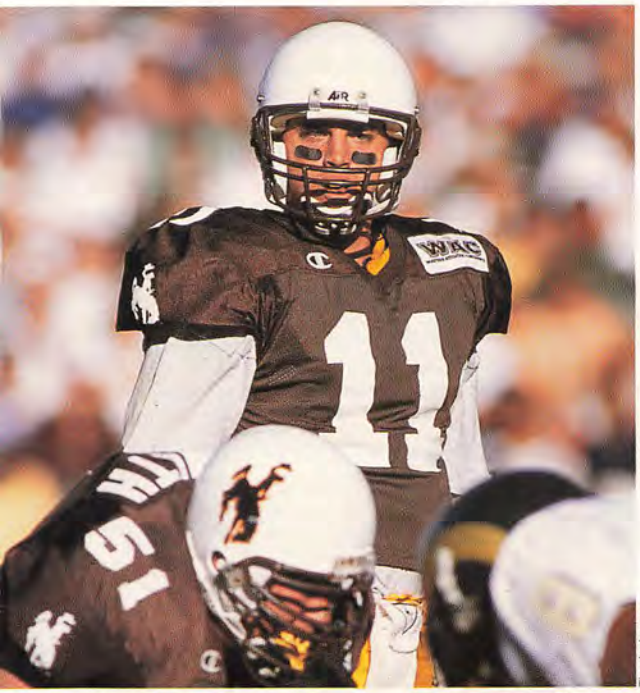
Head Coach: Kevin Steele — **1998 Record (Big 12): 2-9 (1-7)**
1999 Prediction: 6th Big 12 South — **Floyd Casey Stadium (50,000)**

Wyoming Cowboys

64

Wyoming's drive for the 1998 WAC Mountain Division Title ended with a tough, 10–3 loss to Air Force in a meeting of Top 25 teams.

Unfortunately, after that disheartening loss, the Cowboys apparently forgot that they still had one game left on the schedule. A 35–0 defeat at Tulsa in the season's final contest knocked the Cowboys out of bowl consideration, further spoiling an outstanding season. Still, despite the late disappointment, coach Dana Dimel mostly remembers the good part.



Tim Jackson

Jay Stoner

> **3** Wyoming scored a total of three points in its last two games of 1998, losses to Air Force and Tulsa.

"We were that close to the championship," he says. "We were one or two plays away from beating Air Force, playing for the (WAC) championship and being in a bowl game."

Dimel likes the quality of the young players in his program and is confident the Cowboys will have more staying power in '99 in their new surroundings. Wyoming is one of four charter members of the WAC — BYU, Utah and New Mexico are the others — who have broken away after 37 years to form the Mountain West Conference.

Junior quarterback Jay Stoner will lead the Cowboys into the Mountain West's uncharted waters. He has improved steadily and should thrive in a new system, once first-year offensive coordinator Manny Matsakis locks into a scheme for the season. Stoner's production, like the team's, dropped off in the final two games of last year, but he completed nearly 58 percent of his passes.

Having lost 1,000-yard rusher Marques Brigham, Wyoming will turn primarily to seniors Tim Beasley and Jon Jennings at running back.

Senior wideout Wendell Montgomery has caught 58 and 57 passes the last two seasons, respectively, but he doesn't possess the speed to be a breakaway threat. That's also true of the other Cowboy receivers, who were recruited to operate in a possession passing attack, not a wide-open, stretch-the-field approach. The presence and talent of senior tight end Sterling Kihei will be enough to ensure that Matsakis will incorporate that position into his scheme this season.

Wyoming's line is the strength of the offense. Senior left tackle Nate Selk is "the perfect prototype for the passing game," according to Matsakis. Senior left guard Dan Delcorio is possibly the line's best player, and redshirt freshman center Mike Irvin was one of the spring's real discoveries.

With senior Chris Cichosz in place at right tackle, the questionable area is right guard. Senior Jason Wilhelm missed spring drills with an injury, so redshirt freshman Rob Kellerman took a strong run at the position.

The defensive line is one of Wyoming's deepest areas. The star is junior tackle Jeff Boyle, who dominated against stronger teams such as Georgia and Colorado State but was inconsistent in other games.

Flanking Boyle, senior Brian Van Emmerik will play at one end, and senior Jason Dreessen will handle noseguard duties. Watch also for seniors Jon Mathis and Jerel Haynes up front. Junior Patrick Chukwurah plays a "Bandit" position, usually functioning as a defensive end. He led the Cowboys with seven sacks and will be turned loose this season as the Cowboys use a more aggressive approach.

Wyoming started three senior linebackers, with Brian Brown's departure leaving the biggest hole in the middle. But the Cowboys can count on juniors Adrian Hill, Cortney Barnes and Kwabena Peprah and sophomore Herman White to fill the voids.

If senior Robbie Duncan can stay healthy and junior college transfer Jean Dugas can perform as hoped and displace Adrian Boston, Wyoming will have the kind of cornerbacks needed to win.

Junior free safety Al Rich is an all-conference player who will keep improving after leading the team in tackles, and Trent Gamble will play at the strong safety spot.

Junior Aaron Elling is one of the WAC's top kickers, having made 16-of-20 field goals last year. Wyoming always has excellent punters, and No. 2 quarterback Matt Swanson or Tom Waring will try to live up to that billing.

Improvement is needed in the return game, after posting meager numbers last year— 17.8 yards per kickoff and 7.4 yards per punt. Look for Brahms Derenoncourt to return kicks, and Jennings to get a shot at handling punts.

Depth Chart

OFFENSE (5)

WR	83	**Wendell Montgomery (Sr., 3)**	80	Brock Ralph (Fr., 0)
LT	72	Nate Selk (Sr., 3)	74	Adam Goldberg (Fr., 0)
LG	67	**Dan Delcorio (Sr., 3)**	77	Pat Hutchinson (So., 0)
C	64	Mike Irvin (Fr., 0)	59	Ben Murphy (Fr., 0)
RG	79	Rob Kellerman (Fr., 0)	60	Jason Wilhelm (Sr., 1)
RT	61	**Chris Cichosz (Sr., 2)**	75	Trifon Demos (Sr., 3)
TE	86	Sterling Kihei (Sr., 3)	87	Alex English (Jr., 0)
QB	11	**Jay Stoner (Jr., 2)**	15	Matt Swanson (So., 1)
RB	7	Tim Beasley (Sr., 3)	4	Jon Jennings (Sr., 2)
WR	18	**Kofi Shuck (Sr., 3)**	1	Willie King (Sr., 2)
WR	81	Brahms Derenoncourt (Sr., 3)	19	Tommy Nash (Sr., 2)

DEFENSE (8)

DE	93	**Brian Van Emmerik (Sr., 3)**	88	Jerel Haynes (Sr., 2)
DT	92	**Jeff Boyle (Jr., 2)**	45	Jon Mathis (Sr., 1)
NG	97	Jason Dreessen (Sr., 3)	94	Anthony Stannard (Fr., 0)
DE	2	**Patrick Chukwurah (Jr., 2)**	33	**Pat Hirsch (Jr., 2)**
LB	17	Adrian Hill (Jr., 1)	42	Matt Klotz (So., 0)
LB	54	Herman White (So., 1)	39	Jared Jarnagin (Sr., 0)
LB	40	**Kwabena Peprah (Jr., 3)**	28	**Cortney Barnes (Jr., 2)**
CB	9	Adrian Boston (Jr., 2)	21	Jean Dugas (Jr., 0)
CB	22	**Robbie Duncan (Sr., 3)**	5	Mark Sheller (Jr., 2)
SS	20	Trent Gamble (Sr., 3)	32	Rich Sweeney (Jr., 1)
FS	3	**Al Rich (Jr., 2)**	6	Matt Lehning (Sr., 1)

SPECIAL TEAMS

K	8	Aaron Elling (Jr., 1)
P	37	Tom Waring (Jr., 0)
KR	81	Brahms Derenoncourt (Sr.,3)
PR	4	Jon Jennings (Sr., 2)

(#) Indicates number of returning starters
***BOLD** indicates returning starters*
NUMBER after class indicates letters won

Head Coach: Dana Dimel — **1998 Record (WAC): 8–3 (6–2)**
1999 Prediction: 5th MWC — **Home Field: War Memorial (33,500)**

Maryland Terrapins

65

After enduring a 2–9 inaugural campaign followed by a 3–8 second season, Maryland coach Ron Vanderlinden believes the Terrapins are ready to climb up the ACC ladder out of the cellar.

Instead of additional blowout losses, rivals could learn to view College Park as something very different than convenient breathing space in their schedules. "This has the potential to be a breakthrough year for us," Vanderlinden says. "Last year, if we had gotten more consistent play out of our quarterback, we could have won maybe five, six games."

Bill Wood

Peter Timmins

2 The number of winning seasons Maryland has recorded since Bobby Ross left in 1986.

No player will be more important to Maryland's success than quarterback Randall Jones. An excellent scrambler, Jones replaced Ken Mastrole as starter late last season, becoming the first true freshman to start at quarterback at Maryland. Redshirt freshman passer Calvin McCall is tall and very athletic with a stronger arm than Jones. Seeing the writing on the wall regarding his potential playing time, Mastrole transferred to Rhode Island.

Tailback LaMont Jordan finished second in the conference last year, gaining 906 yards in 10 games, and had five 100-yard games. Harold Westley started the first two games of last season before being replaced by Jordan. He gained 296 yards on 78 carries and is an effective backup and good insurance. Fullback Matt Kalapinski, an excellent blocker, can also be an effective runner. He showed promise last season, rushing for 87 yards against Virginia and 80 versus West Virginia.

The Terrapins return most of their top receivers, but the group didn't catch a lot of passes in 1998. Maryland must get the ball more to speedy Jermaine Arrington, considering his big-play potential. After the off-season suspension of Moises Cruz following an altercation, Maryland's other wideout will likely be Jason Hatala, with Guilian Gary in reserve. Another transfer, John Waerig, who came to Maryland from Wisconsin in 1997, will start at tight end. He's an above-average blocker with good hands.

Vanderlinden welcomes back four starters along the offensive front. Melvin Fowler Jr. started at center as a freshman last season. Guards Jamie Wu and Mike George are strong run blockers. Maryland also retained the services of left tackle Brad Messina, a returning starter who excels at pass blocking. The one trouble spot could be right tackle, where Tim Howard and Brett Trammell have seen only limited experience and redshirt freshman Matt Crawford none. They will replace John Feugill, a Blue-Gray all-star game selection.

No question, the strength of the defense will be in the big bodies up front. The Terrapins excel inside and outside along the front wall. Tackle Delbert Cowsette, an effective run stopper with 4.8 speed, spearheads a unit that returns three starters. Despite switching from fullback, senior end Peter Timmins, a player with a non-stop motor, led the Terrapins with 7½ sacks. Kris Jenkins returns at tackle and could be one of the team's most improved players. Converted linebacker Erwyn Lyght will start at the end opposite Timmins.

Graduation decimated the team at the linebacking position. Maryland lost the ACC's top two tacklers, inside players Eric Barton and Kendall Ogle. The lone returning starter, Aaron Thompson, had an impact as a redshirt freshman. Thompson, a hard-hitting outside linebacker with good speed, ranked fourth in tackles with 87 and led the team in tackles for loss (nine). Redshirt freshman E.J. Henderson and sophomores Corey Smith, Reggie Lewis and Marlon Moore will be in the running for the two vacancies.

The secondary's top player, Lewis Sanders, missed last season because of a shoulder injury. Sanders had four interceptions in 1997 at free safety, but he moves to cornerback to lead a much-improved group. He'll replace Cliff Crosby (team-high five interceptions), who graduated. Cornerback Tony Okanlawon earned a starting spot at midseason. Shawn Forte and Rod Littles form a mediocre safety tandem.

Brian Kopka, a returning starter, can be a reliable placekicker. He connected on 10 consecutive field goals early in the season, but struggled down the stretch, going 1-for-7, though every attempt was greater than 45 yards. Sean Starner will handle the punting duties.

Depth Chart

OFFENSE (9)

WR	85	**Jermaine Arrington (Sr., 1)**	3	Omar Cheeseboro (Jr., 2)
LT	75	**Brad Messina (Sr., 2)**	74	Brett Trammell (Jr., 0)
LG	79	**Mike George (So., 1)**	64	Bob Krantz (Fr., 0)
C	67	**Melvin Fowler Jr. (So., 1)**	54	Sam Marvis (Fr., 0)
RG	56	**Jamie Wu (Sr., 2)**	51	Chris Snader (So., 0)
RT	77	Tim Howard (Jr., 0)	78	Matt Crawford (Fr., 0)
TE	46	**John Waerig (Sr., 1)**	88	Matt Murphy (So., 1)
QB	12	**Randall Jones (So., 1)**	9	Calvin McCall (Fr., 0)
FB	45	**Matt Kalapinski (Jr., 2)**	34	Kenny Rogers (Sr., 2)
TB	15	**LaMont Jordan (Jr., 2)**	8	Harold Westley (Sr., 2)
WR	89	Jason Hatala (Jr., 2)	21	Guilian Gary (So., 1)

DEFENSE (6)

LE	41	Erwyn Lyght (Sr., 3)	93	Eric Calendine (Sr., 0)
LT	57	**Kris Jenkins (Jr., 2)**	98	Charles Hill (So., 1)
RT	91	**Delbert Cowsette (Sr., 3)**	96	Todd Bradley (Fr., 0)
RE	47	**Peter Timmins (Sr., 3)**	97	Nate Rust Jr. (Sr., 0)
LB	40	**Aaron Thompson (So., 1)**	48	Ryan Swift (So., 1)
LB	35	Marlon Moore (So., 1)	58	Corey Smith (So., 0)
LB	42	E.J. Henderson (Fr., 0)	53	Reggie Lewis (So., 0)
LC	37	Lewis Sanders (Jr., 2)	26	Bryn Boggs (Sr., 0)
RC	11	**Tony Okanlawon (So., 1)**	20	Renard Cox (Sr., 1)
SS	33	Rod Littles (So., 1)	29	Tyrone Stewart (Fr., 0)
FS	13	**Shawn Forte (Jr., 1)**	27	Tony Jackson (Jr., 2)

SPECIAL TEAMS

K	17	Brian Kopka (Jr., 2)
P	10	Sean Starner (Jr., 0)
KR	85	Jermaine Arrington (Sr., 1)
PR	21	Guilian Gary (So., 1)

(#) Indicates number of returning starters
***BOLD** indicates returning starters*
NUMBER after class indicates letters won

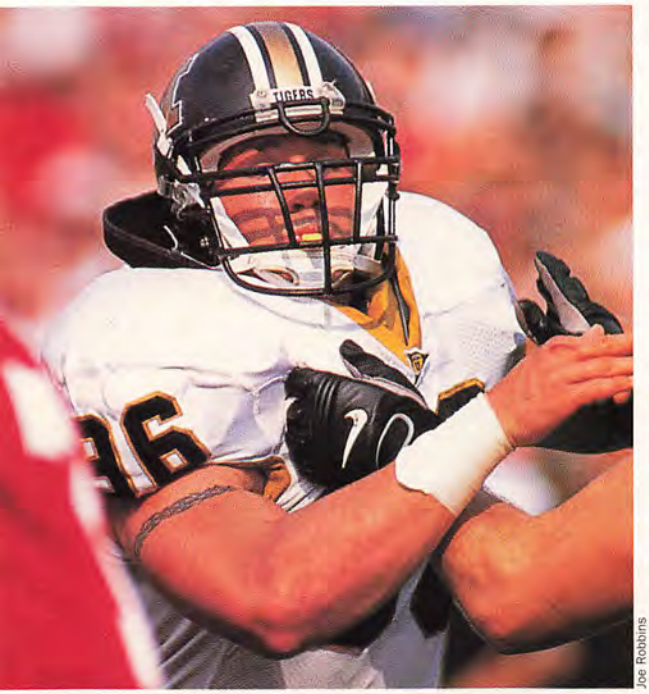
Head Coach: Ron Vanderlinden **1998 Record (ACC): 3-8 (1-7)**
1999 Prediction: 6th ACC **Byrd Stadium (48,055)**

Missouri Tigers

66

Missouri coach Larry Smith's approach is uncomplicated. "You just line up and knock the tar out of the guy over you," he says. "I expect to have a football team that will be physical."

He should have just such a team. The Tigers have enough defensive muscle to contend for a place in the Big 12 championship game in San Antonio. What they need is for a young and inexperienced offense to shoulder its share of the load.



Joe Robbins

Justin Smith

57,335 The average attendance for six games at Faurot Field was the highest since 1981. The 9-percent increase over 1997 was the second-highest in the Big 12.

The departure of quarterback Corby Jones has left a significant void to be filled by junior Ryan Douglass or redshirt freshman Kirk Farmer. Douglass, the son of former NFL quarterback Bobby Douglass, has seen little action during two seasons as Jones' backup. He played in only four games last fall and is 0-for-8 passing for his career.

On the plus side, Douglass and Farmer both have good size and strong arms, which means the Tigers should be able to throw more effectively, even though Smith's offense is heavily skewed toward the run.

Without Devin West, the nation's fifth-leading ball carrier a year ago, Missouri is looking at a running-back-by-committee approach. Senior DeVaughn Black, sophomore Zain Gilmore and junior Ricardo Rhodes will rotate, though coaches hope one of the three will step up.

Black, who has played fullback as well as tailback, is quick to the hole. Gilmore has size and speed reminiscent of West, but has played in only four games. Rhodes is quick but small. Senior Rob West, whose kickout blocks helped clear the way for Devin West, is the best runner among the fullbacks.

Junior John Dausman and seniors Kent Layman and Kareem Wise all return to the wide receiver corps. Dausman, among the fastest players on the team with 4.3 speed, was second on the team in receptions and first in yards per reception (20.2). Layman has caught at least one pass in 22 consecutive games. Rangy sophomore Dwayne Blakley is a receiving threat at tight end.

Senior center Rob Riti is the lone returning starter in an offensive line that cleared the way for the nation's ninth-best rushing offense. Riti has started 33 consecutive games, was first-team all-conference and should be an All-American. The other starters figure to be sophomores Jeff Hellerstedt, Aaron Crittendon, Justin Bland and either Adrian Cole or Mike Hayes. Hellerstedt responded well in five starts.

Sophomore defensive end Justin Smith, the Big 12 Defensive Freshman of the Year, is a difference-maker. The first true freshman to start every game at Missouri since 1986, Smith was second on the team in tackles with 86, including 13 for loss. Defensive coordinator Moe Ankney will move Smith around in different alignments, not only to confuse the blocking schemes but also to capitalize on the opposing offense's weaknesses.

Seniors Jeff Marriott, Pat Mingucci, Steve Erickson and Terrell Jurineack are part of a two-deep front that should be able to control the line of scrimmage.

Senior linebacker Barry Odom is a steady overachiever who can play either inside position. Sophomore Jamonte Robinson would have been the first-year sensation if not for Smith. Robinson's speed and closing ability are ideally suited to the Tigers' run-and-hit philosophy. Junior Pat Duffy was an inside linebacker before settling in at the bandit position, where Daniel McCamy is penciled in as a starter.

Even though speedy senior Carlos Posey is the only returning starter, the secondary should be solid with junior Julian Jones, sophomore Clarence Jones and redshirt freshmen Antoine Duncan and John McPherson. Posey has 4.33 speed and big-play ability. He returned a fumble 65 yards for a touchdown against Ohio State, and he took his first career interception 61 yards for a touchdown against Colorado. Julian Jones is the team's best athlete.

Sophomores Brian Long and Brad Hammerich are the prime candidates to handle the placekicking, with senior Vince Sebo returning as the punter. Sebo averaged 41.4 yards but was inconsistent, following an 80-yard punt with a six-yarder against Nebraska. Ricardo Rhodes and Arty Johnson will be among those handling returns.

Depth Chart

OFFENSE (4)

WR	6	**Kareem Wise (Sr., 1)**	80	John Dausman (Jr., 1)
LT	74	Aaron Crittendon (So., 1)	71	Joe Glauberman (Jr., 1)
LG	60	Jeff Hellerstedt (So., 1)	65	Wes Wilson (Fr., 0)
C	76	**Rob Riti (Sr., 3)**	63	Mike Hayes (So., 0)
RG	59	Adrian Cole (So., 0)	63	Mike Hayes (So., 0)
RT	72	Justin Bland (So., 1)	73	Brad Smith (Sr., 0)
TE	85	Dwayne Blakley (So., 1)	87	Brandon Ford (So., 1)
QB	10	Ryan Douglass (Jr., 2)	14	Kirk Farmer (Fr., 0)
FB	45	**Rob West (Sr., 1)**	34	T.J. Leon (Fr., 0)
RB	22	DeVaughn Black (Sr., 1)	2	Zain Gilmore (So., 1)
WR	84	**Kent Layman (Sr., 3)**	24	Eric Spencer (So., 1)

DEFENSE (5)

DG	77	Pat Mingucci (Sr., 2)	91	Clayton McAboy (So., 0)
NT	93	**Jeff Marriott (Sr., 3)**	90	Cedric Harden (Fr., 0)
DT	94	**Steve Erickson (Sr., 3)**	79	Terrell Jurineack (Sr., 1)
DE	96	**Justin Smith (So., 1)**	95	Daryl Whittington (Jr., 2)
LB	67	Daniel McCamy (Jr., 1)	36	Pat Duffy (Jr., 2)
LB	39	**Barry Odom (Sr., 3)**	99	Michael Clay (Fr., 0)
LB	55	Jamonte Robinson (So., 1)	56	Duke Revard (So., 0)
CB	5	**Carlos Posey (Sr., 3)**	15	Andre Roberson (Jr., 2)
CB	7	Antoine Duncan (Fr., 0)	16	John McPherson (Fr., 0)
SS	8	Clarence Jones (So., 1)	26	Harold Hendricks (Jr., 1)
FS	4	Julian Jones (Jr., 2)	9	Neal Colzie Jr. (Fr., 0)

SPECIAL TEAMS

K		Brian Long (So., 1)
P	17	Vince Sebo (Sr., 3)
KR	31	Ricardo Rhodes (Jr., 2)
PR	21	Arty Johnson (Sr., 1)

(#) Indicates number of returning starters
***BOLD** indicates returning starters*
NUMBER after class indicates letters won

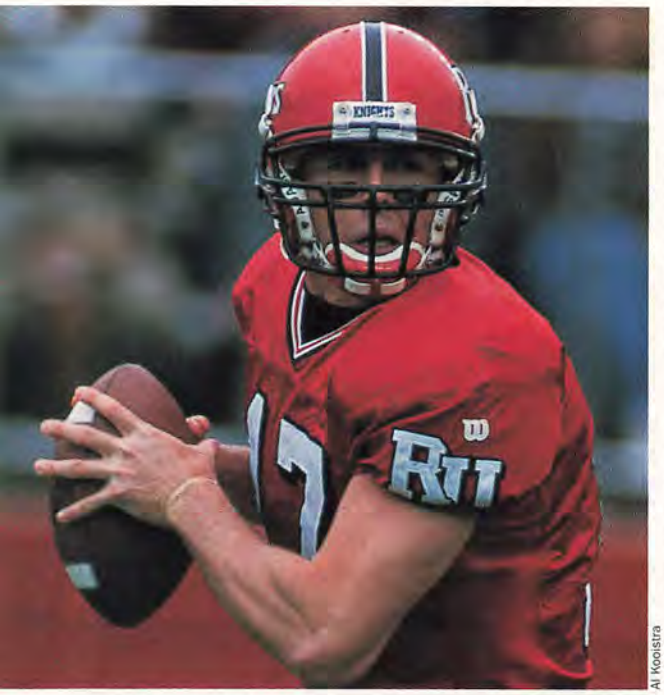
Head Coach: Larry Smith — **1998 Record (Big 12): 8–4 (5–3)**
1999 Prediction: 5th Big 12 North — **Faurot Field (62,000)**

Rutgers Scarlet Knights

67

The dramatic improvement Rutgers showed last season by going 5–6 after an 0–11 season in 1997 leaves one major question for this fall: Was it true progress or just a one-year aberration? For a program that hasn't had a winning season since 1992, the answer means everything.

"Is this the year where we can expect the ultimate to happen, to win big — however you define that?" coach Terry Shea asks. "Probably not, but we're getting closer."



Al Kooistra

Mike McMahon

110 Where the 1998 Rutgers defense ranked nationally against the rush out of 112 Division I-A teams.

Shea, 7–26 for his first three years at Rutgers, heads into this season with a proven quarterback in junior Mike McMahon, 15 returning starters and the full allotment of 85 scholarship players for the first time.

The two-year starting investment in McMahon should pay dividends. Mistake-prone through his first two seasons, McMahon has set a 10-interception limit for himself this year. That's an ambitious goal for someone who will have close to 300 pass attempts.

He showed marked improvement last year, completing 51.8 percent of his passes for 2,203 yards, and will probably own most of the school's single-season and career passing records before he's done. The only backups are seldom-used Mike Jones and true freshman Chad Schwenk, and both are little more than short-term, emergency solutions.

After losing his starting halfback spot to Dennis Thomas following the opener, Jacki Crooks won it back by the seventh game and then ran away from the competition, finishing with a team-high 821 yards. He's the leading returning rusher in the Big East. Thomas has since moved to fullback.

Tosh Riddick, who showed promise as a wide receiver last year and earned All-Big East second team honors as a return specialist, takes his talents to running back by request. Seth Stanton, a punishing blocker and dependable receiver, will back up Thomas at fullback.

Of the seven scholarship receivers on the roster, not one played a down for the Knights last season. Errol Johnson, who earned All-America honors at Foothill (Calif.) College a year ago, will start. Then there's Walter King, who sat out all of last season with back problems after leading the Big East in yards per catch in 1997. Greg Graves steps in at tight end.

Beyond Shaun O'Hara, a second-team All-Big East pick at left tackle last year, Rutgers doesn't have a dominant lineman. But it does have a lot of bodies this year. O'Hara has shifted to center, leaving Mike Esposito, Dave Showalter and Sheddrick Mitchell to battle for the left tackle vacancy. Figure McMahon to keep close tabs on that competition.

Mike DeLucia backs up O'Hara after starting the first five and last two games at center in '98. Rich Mazza and Iosefa Puaauli will be the starting guards, with Ben French at right tackle.

Despite some improvement in '98, Rutgers was still last in the Big East in scoring defense, rushing defense, total defense and sacks.

For a change, Rutgers has depth along the defensive front. There just aren't enough dominant players. End Wayne Hampton, a second-team All-Big East selection, averaged 7.4 tackles a game last year, third-best among the league's defensive linemen. End Marcus Perry and tackles Ansel George-Shields and Mike Behl each started at least nine games last season.

Even though the Knights have a couple of solid senior linebackers in Dax Strohmeyer outside and Jabari Moore inside, it's the arrival of two freshmen that has created a buzz. Shane Smith and Raheem Orr have been touted as immediate impact players — provided they get their grades in order.

Hoping to add more speed, Shea moved two players to inside linebacker: Tarell Freeney and Wesley Robertson, both of whom have been clocked at 4.4 in the 40.

The secondary is deep, talented and experienced. Garrett Shea will move from a starting corner spot to free safety to accommodate two talented corners: Tony Berry, who would have started if he hadn't been sidelined by the NCAA Clearinghouse, and Riley Jefferson, who sat out last season because of academic problems. Ben Martin, a four-game starter at free safety, moves to strong safety.

After going three years without even the threat of a field goal kicker, Rutgers found one last year in Steve Barone, who made 8-of-12, including a 51-yarder. Charlie Titus was solid last fall, averaging 41.6 yards per punt.

Depth Chart

OFFENSE (6)

SE	86	Walter King (Jr., 2)	85	Mahiri Moody (Jr., 1)
LT	78	Mike Esposito (So., 0)	53	Dave Showalter (So., 0)
LG	55	Rich Mazza (Jr., 1)	71	Randy Smith (Sr., 1)
C	**66**	**Shaun O'Hara (Sr., 2)**	**63**	**Mike DeLucia (Sr., 3)**
RG	**64**	**Iosefa Puaauli (Sr., 1)**	69	Howard Blackwood (So.,0)
RT	74	Ben French (Sr., 3)	70	Tim Baker (Sr., 0)
TE		Greg Graves (Jr., 0)	89	Rob Ring (So., 1)
FL	80	Errol Johnson (Jr., 0)	84	Phil Douglas (So., 0)
QB	**17**	**Mike McMahon (Jr., 2)**	12	Mike Jones (Sr., 2)
HB	**7**	**Jacki Crooks (Sr., 3)**	32	Kevin Sinclair (Jr., 1)
FB	**30**	**Dennis Thomas (Jr., 1)**	40	Seth Stanton (So., 1)

DEFENSE (9)

LE	**59**	**Marcus Perry (Jr., 1)**	99	Karl Mayall (Jr., 1)
NT	**96**	**Ansel George-Shields (Sr.,3)**	61	Thomas Petko (Jr., 1)
T	**94**	**Mike Behl (Sr., 3)**	57	Greg Pyszczymuka (So., 0)
RE	**56**	**Wayne Hampton (Sr., 2)**	52	Raishard Crawford (Jr., 2)
LB	**49**	**Dax Strohmeyer (Sr., 3)**	54	Dennis McCormack (Sr.,0)
LB	**5**	**Jabari Moore (Sr., 1)**	48	Mike Pridgeon (Sr., 3)
LB	3	Wesley Robertson (Jr., 1)	**47**	**Tarell Freeney (Jr., 2)**
LC	2	Tony Berry (So., 0)	21	DeWayne Thompson (So.,0)
RC	22	Riley Jefferson (Jr., 1)	27	Robert Crenshaw (So., 1)
SS	**29**	**Ben Martin (Jr., 2)**	42	Brian Bender (Fr., 0)
FS	**8**	**Garrett Shea (Sr., 1)**	18	Jabari Miller (So., 0)

SPECIAL TEAMS

K	14	Steve Barone (So., 1)
P	37	Charlie Titus (Jr., 1)
KR	6	Tosh Riddick (So., 1)
PR	8	Garrett Shea (Sr., 1)

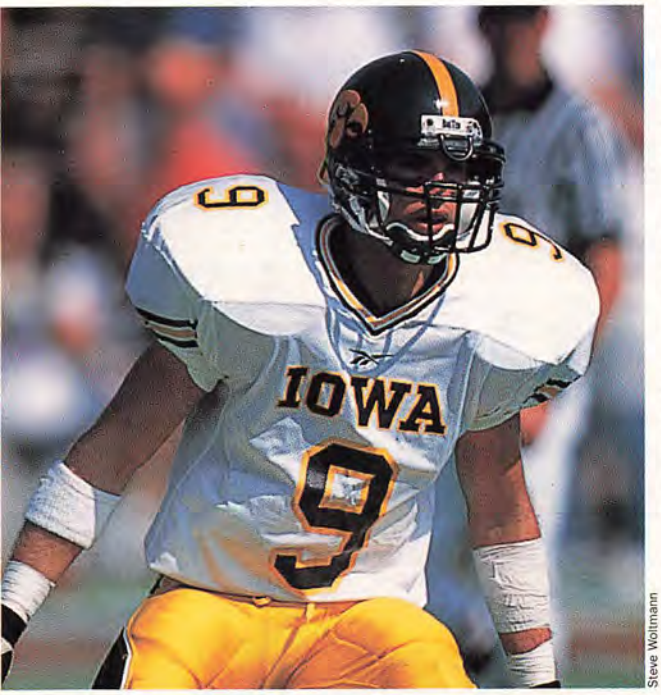
(#) Indicates number of returning starters
***BOLD** indicates returning starters*
NUMBER after class indicates letters won

Head Coach: Terry Shea — **1998 Record (Big East): 5–6 (2–5)**
1999 Prediction: 6th Big East — **Rutgers Stadium (41,500)**

Iowa Hawkeyes

68

It's 1979 all over again for the Iowa Hawkeyes. There's a new coach. Nebraska is back on the schedule. And the Hawkeyes are again trying to bounce back from an embarrassing year that left the program at a crossroads. Hayden Fry rode in from Texas to raise Iowa from the dregs of the Big Ten in '79, taking the Hawkeyes to 14 bowl games, including three Rose Bowls ('82, '86 and '91). Last year, though, was a complete meltdown. Iowa was pummeled by rivals Iowa State and Minnesota. The Hawkeyes used 22 first-time starters in a 3–8 season (2–6 Big Ten), Fry's worst since his inaugural campaign. He retired at season's end.



Steve Woltmann

Matt Bowen

22 Iowa's yards per rush last year. Weigh in all those quarterback sacks, throw in a pitiful running game and it adds up to the same thing — this offensive line has nowhere to go but up.

Now, Iowa starts all over again. Enter Kirk Ferentz, offensive line coach under Fry from 1981-1989, the Hawks' glory years, to pick up the pieces. Iowa returns 10 starters, a mixed blessing on a team that took so many lumps last year. The buzz during spring ball was that Ferentz was working on a new-fangled West Coast offense to ease pressure on the offensive line. They had better learn quickly. The Cornhuskers come to town for the season opener on Sept. 4.

At quarterback, Randy Reiners was sidetracked by a death in the family and never picked up on the potential he showed at the end of 1997. Reiners, Iowa's most mobile quarterback when healthy, started only four games. Kyle McCann started five games. A tall and slender dropback type, McCann has a better arm than Reiners but was rendered ineffective when Iowa's protection broke down.

Iowa's running game went from first to worst in the Big Ten. Iowa averaged just 80.9 rushing yards per game and scored just nine touchdowns. Ladell Betts is beefy enough to handle a bigger workload and has the hands (20 catches for 259 yards) to be effective as a receiver. The Hawkeyes can change pace with slasher sophomore Robbie Crockett (8.1 yards per carry).

Rob Thein will start the season lining up in front of Betts at fullback.

Receiver Kahlil Hill had a season marked with stunning, athletic highlights and some egregious freshman errors. Hill could double last year's totals of 35 catches for 432 yards. Senior Bashir Yamini will get the first look to start opposite Hill.

Senior tight ends Zeron Flemister and Austin Wheatley are both big targets.

Ferentz has a reputation of building great front lines, but he's got work to do. Iowa was last in the Big Ten in total offense.

The only returnee who started all 11 games is junior Ben Sobieski at left tackle, and he looks doubtful to play as he recovers from a serious shoulder injury. Alonzo Cunningham, who started six games, has the inside track at his tackle slot. Chad Deal has been moved from guard to center. Matt Rogers started four games at right guard but was moved to left tackle in the spring, leaving a green pairing of Bruce Nelson and Kyle Trippeer. The left side is going to be contested by Jay Bickford and Glen Giesen.

The defensive line will focus primarily on stopping the run as the Hawkeyes are switching from a 5–2 base to a 4–3. End Ed Saidat can handle the load (11 tackles for loss, five sacks); Skip Miller, Jerry Montgomery and Corey Brown will split time at the two tackle slots. Left end Anthony Herron is the only down lineman on the two-deep to start every game last year.

Linebacker Aaron Kampman is the Hawkeyes' defensive star-in-the-making. One of the best prep linebackers ever to come out of Iowa, Kampman made up for assignment errors with tenacity. Travis Senters or Derrick Davison should start at weakside linebacker. LeVar Woods should start at the strong side.

Strong safety Matt Bowen led the team in tackles last year (92) and had two interceptions. Matt Stockdale is the favorite to start with Bowen, but will be pushed by Jeff Buch and Shane Hall. At cornerback, Tarig Holman holds down one slot after three interceptions and 10 passes broken up last year; Joe Slattery is the starter at the other slot.

Senior Tim Douglas will kick. Junior punter Jason Baker averaged 39.8 yards per boot. Hill was fearless as a rookie returner last year, ranking 17th nationally in kick returns (25.8 yard average) and averaging more than 17 yards per punt return.

Depth Chart

OFFENSE (5)

SE	5	**Bashir Yamini (Sr., 1)**	6	Chris Oliver (So., 1)
LT	74	**Alonzo Cunningham (So., 1)**	71	Matt Rogers (Sr., 1)
LG	63	Jay Bickford (Sr., 1)	78	Glen Giesen (Sr., 0)
C	67	Chad Deal (Sr., 2)	52	A.J. Blazek (Jr., 0)
RG	92	Bruce Nelson (Fr., 0)	83	Kyle Trippeer (Jr., 1)
RT	73	David Porter (So., 0)	70	Andy Lightfoot (Fr., 0)
TE	80	Zeron Flemister (Sr., 1)	86	Austin Wheatley (Sr., 2)
QB	13	Randy Reiners (Sr., 2)	**4**	**Kyle McCann (So., 1)**
RB	**46**	**Ladell Betts (So., 1)**	15	Robbie Crockett (So., 1)
FB	31	Rob Thein (Sr., 3)	47	Jeremy Allen (So., 1)
FL	**3**	**Kahlil Hill (So., 1)**	87	Kevin Kasper (Jr., 1)

DEFENSE (5)

DE	**99**	**Anthony Herron (Jr. 2)**	36	Cody O'Hare (So., 1)
DT	91	Jerry Montgomery (So., 1)	93	Skip Miller (Jr., 1)
DT	96	Corey Brown (Sr., 3)	66	Cory Bern (Jr., 0)
DE	**98**	**Ed Saidat (Sr., 1)**	50	Scott Pospisil (Sr., 0)
LB	97	LeVar Woods (Jr., 1)	23	Jon Omotola (Fr., 0)
LB	37	Derrick Davison (Jr., 0)	51	Travis Senters (Sr., 2)
LB	54	Aaron Kampman (So., 1)	30	Roger Meyer (So., 1)
CB	**11**	**Joe Slattery (Sr., 1)**	19	D.J. Johnson (So., 1)
CB	**2**	**Tarig Holman (Sr., 2)**	8	Mikkel Brown (So., 0)
SS	**9**	**Matt Bowen (Sr., 2)**	5	Derek Pagel (Fr., 0)
FS	21	Matt Stockdale (So., 1)	10	Shane Hall (So., 1)

SPECIAL TEAMS

K	17	Tim Douglas (Sr., 1)
P	7	Jason Baker (Jr., 2)
KR	3	Kahlil Hill (So., 1)
PR	3	Kahlil Hill (So., 1)

(#) Indicates number of returning starters
***BOLD** indicates returning starters*
NUMBER after class indicates letters won

Head Coach: Kirk Ferentz — 1998 Record (Big 10): 3-8 (2-6)
1999 Prediction: 10th Big 10 — Kinnick Stadium (70,397)

Vanderbilt Commodores

69

Vanderbilt football is a one-sided affair. Two years ago it was the Commodore defense that dominated what little spotlight shone on this team. The offense was lost in the dark. Last year it was the offense that finally started making strides while the defense went from first to worst in the SEC. The frustration has taken a toll on fans, many of whom have abandoned a team that hasn't posted a winning record in 17 years.

Tim Clark

Jamie Winborn

But Coach Woody Widenhofer remains as optimistic as ever. The former Pittsburgh Steelers defensive coordinator is confident that he can rebuild the defense and put a unit on the field that will remind fans of the one that played so well two years ago.

15 That's how many different players caught passes for the Commodores last season. And that's a lot for Vandy. Twelve of the 15 who made catches last season are back.

For the first time in many years the Commodores enter the season settled on a starting quarterback. Sophomore Greg Zolman finally earned the starting assignment after Hi Lewis and David Wallace had been given shots. The Ohio native with the strong left arm provided the offense with the ability to make big plays.

"Greg can take our offense to a level where it hasn't been in quite some time," Widenhofer says. Wallace, who started six games as a true freshman, will be Zolman's backup.

Last year's single-back set has been shelved for a two-back set that will take better advantage of Rodney Williams, Jared McGrath and Lew Thomas. Cornerback Jimmy Williams will also see plenty of action on offense as a slot back in the new alignment.

Rodney Williams is the best runner of the group; he proved that last year when he broke loose for three consecutive 100-yard games as a redshirt freshman. McGrath, who owned the starting position at the beginning of last season, jumped back in when Williams was injured and finished with 608 yards. And Thomas may be the most difficult of the three to bring down. He has bulked up to 217 pounds to be a better fit at fullback.

With talented wideouts such as Tavarus Hogans, Anthony Jones, Adam Ditto and Nezih Hasanoglu, the Commodores can finally mix it up with most of the teams they face. Hogans, who led the team with 28 catches last season, has a knack for getting open, while Jones, who had a team-high 21.3 yards per catch, has a knack for making big plays.

The Commodores still must find a way to get the ball to Todd Yoder. He may see some time at tight end in the new offense, and that means competition for last year's starter, Elliott Carson, who was the team's second-leading receiver with 25 catches.

Two new starters must be identified on the offensive line, but with plenty of depth returning from last season, the line should be a strength. Starting center Jeff Barnett, right tackle Raminte' Byndom and left guard Brian Gruber all return. Gruber moved to left tackle in spring practice to make room for Michael Saltsman, who was the starting left guard two years ago but missed all of last season with a broken leg. Darren Rothenberg, a 315-pounder, is the leading candidate to step in at right guard, where he started one game last year.

Ryan Aulds has started the last two years at nose guard. Doyle Crosby, who led the defensive linemen in tackles (44), and Chuck Losey, who stepped in as the starter after Alphonso Harvey moved to tackle, will also start. There will be a rotation at the end position with Wally Conyers and Russ Nicoll, who is one of the team's strongest players.

Vanderbilt is loaded with top-notch linebackers. The new starting array includes Jamie Winborn, Lamont Turner, Matt Stewart and newcomer Nate Morrow. Winborn posted a team-high 131 tackles last season.

Brian Taylor is a step ahead of the other cornerbacks because of experience. But Taylor was unable to cover some of the SEC's top receivers, so Rushen Jones, one of the team's fastest players, will get a shot. Ainsley Battles is back at strong safety and Jimmy Williams is at right cornerback. The other safety position is open and could be filled by Harold Lercius.

Shane Daly may see less time at receiver and more time at punter, where he is pushing Joe Webb, who battled inconsistency last year. John Markham, meanwhile, has the placekicking duties wrapped up. Jimmy Williams' versatility has spilled over to special teams. He is Vandy's top kickoff returner and averaged 23.4 yards last season.

Depth Chart

OFFENSE (5)

WR	7	Tavarus Hogans (Sr., 3)	10	Anthony Jones (So., 1)
LT	**64**	**Brian Gruber (Jr., 2)**	75	J.P. Fougerousse (So., 0)
LG	78	Michael Saltsman (Jr., 2)	72	Jim May (Fr., 0)
C	50	Jeff Barnett (Sr., 3)	55	Jamie Byrum (Fr., 0)
RG	77	Darren Rothenberg (Jr., 2)	69	Matt Hill (Jr., 0)
RT	**70**	**Raminte' Byndom (Sr., 3)**	60	Pat Green (Jr., 2)
TE	**80**	**Elliott Carson (Jr., 2)**	81	Todd Yoder (Sr., 3)
QB	**12**	**Greg Zolman (So., 1)**	17	David Wallace (So., 1)
FB	4	Lew Thomas (So., 1)	**33**	**Jared McGrath (Jr., 2)**
RB	20	Rodney Williams (So., 1)	**33**	**Jared McGrath (Jr., 2)**
WR	82	Nezih Hasanoglu (So., 1)	6	Adam Ditto (So., 1)

DEFENSE (7)

DE	**63**	**Doyle Crosby (So., 1)**	66	Wally Conyers (So., 1)
NG	**98**	**Ryan Aulds (Jr., 2)**	97	Tyler Unzicker (So., 1)
DE	54	Chuck Losey (So., 1)	73	Russ Nicoll (Jr., 1)
LB	**26**	**Matt Stewart (Jr., 2)**	99	Reggie Washington (So., 0)
LB	**42**	**Jamie Winborn (So., 1)**	34	Anthony Ford (So., 1)
LB	**44**	**Lamont Turner (Sr., 3)**	41	Antuian Bradford (So., 1)
LB	40	Nate Morrow (So., 1)	43	Brandon Walthour (Fr., 0)
CB	**9**	**Jimmy Williams (Jr., 2)**	27	Rushen Jones (Fr., 0)
CB	46	Brian Taylor (So., 1)	5	Aaron McWhorter (Fr., 0)
SS	**22**	**Ainsley Battles (Sr., 3)**	35	Jerrol Jackson (Fr., 0)
FS	32	Harold Lercius (So., 1)	14	Brooks Collins (Jr., 2)

SPECIAL TEAMS

K	19	John Markham (Jr., 2)
P	91	Joe Webb (Jr., 2)
KR	9	Jimmy Williams (Jr., 2)
PR	32	Harold Lercius (So., 1)

(#) Indicates number of returning starters
***BOLD** indicates returning starters*
NUMBER after class indicates letters won

Head Coach: Woody Widenhofer
1999 Prediction: 5th SEC East
1998 Record (SEC): 2-9 (1-7)
Vanderbilt Stadium (41,600)

Clemson Tigers

70

Expectations? "Well, let's see," first-year Clemson coach Tommy Bowden says. "We lost all five offensive linemen. We lost both senior kickers. We're playing only five home games. We play seven bowl teams. You throw all that into the gumbo pot and you're coming off a 3–8 season."

The personable, innovative son of a legend knows his role: Tommy Bowden is supposed to get Clemson back into the routine of bowl victories and national attention.

Courtland Richards

Brian Wofford

1943 The last year in which Clemson entered a season without a returning starter on the offensive line. And that was because of depletion caused by World War II.

Senior quarterback Brandon Streeter, the starter in '98, may be keeping the seat warm for freshman Willie Simmons. Streeter was erratic as a junior in his first year as a starter, but might benefit from a more focused strategy. Woodrow Dantzler played in five games and got one start in '98. He's a better runner than Streeter but has been disappointing as a passer.

Leading rusher Travis Zachery had 995 all-purpose yards, a record for a Clemson freshman, but was suspended from spring practice and the season opener because of an "in-house discipline" violation. Javis Austin was the lead running back in spring practice, and his pass-catching ability makes him well-suited for the Bowden system. Terry Witherspoon is back at fullback, but Vince Ciurciu stole the show in spring workouts before suffering a broken ankle. Freshman Chad Jasmin, a 5'10", 205-pound sprinter, may add a needed spark to the backfield.

There was high-fiving all around the veteran group of receivers when Bowden was hired. Brian Wofford and Mal Lawyer combined for 66 catches last year and figure to surpass that while leaving some of the glory for Rod Gardner and Mike Seth. Tight end T.J. Watkins has improved as a blocker but his position has been de-emphasized because of Bowden's four-receiver formations.

The offensive linemen are facing the double dilemma of inexperience (no returning starters and the youngest offensive line in Clemson history) and a new system (NFL-style Pass Blocking 101). Center Kyle Young got four starts as a redshirt freshman and looks like a budding All-ACC candidate. Tackles Akil Smith, a sophomore, and redshirt freshman Brady Washburn are two of the best offensive line prospects Clemson has had this decade. Neely Page and redshirt freshman Gary Byrd will be given the first chances at the guard spots with John McDermott and redshirt freshman Jeremy Carroll close behind.

Bowden doesn't do defense. "That's Reggie Herring's department and I don't touch it," Bowden says. Herring, a holdover defensive coordinator from Tommy West's staff, prefers to force issues with his 4–3 attack. Terry Bryant and Gary Childress return as starters at defensive end. Damonte McKenzie and Terry Jolly have been part-time starters at tackle; McKenzie (19 tackles over the last four games) and Jason Holloman (two sacks at Florida State) figure to start inside with Jovon Bush likely to get an expanded role. Coaches hope this group will control the run and get sacks by committee.

"There's a lot of talent at linebacker but we don't have that proven big-play guy," Herring says. But middle linebacker Harold Means is a run-stopper with range, and tenacious outside linebacker Keith Adams came on fast as a freshman. Braxton K. Williams takes over at strongside linebacker with competition from Kenzi Ross, who missed most of spring practice with a knee injury.

"The secondary has been our nemesis the last two years," Herring says. "Big plays."

DoMarco Fox has switched from free safety to corner and Robert Carswell from strong safety to free safety. Alex Ardley will start again at cornerback after a redshirt freshman season full of promise and frustration. Charles Hafley finds himself back at strong safety where he ended last season. Darrel Crutchfield and David Evans are former starters who provide depth at corner, as does senior Dextra Polite. Freshman Brian Mance, a mix of speed (10.6 in 100 meters) and toughness, is likely to get playing time.

Kicker Ryan Romano is a scholarship junior but has yet to letter. He'll compete with walk-ons Chris Campbell, Con Chellis and Tony Lazzara. Kevin Laird's departure left Clemson without a punter with game experience. Those duties may fall to Romano, too.

Depth Chart

OFFENSE (4)

WR	**84**	**Mal Lawyer (Sr., 3)**	23	Rod Gardner (Jr., 2)
LT	78	Brady Washburn (Fr., 0)	67	John McDermott (Jr., 1)
LG	62	Neely Page (So., 1)	60	Theo Mougros (Jr., 2)
C	59	Kyle Young (So., 1)	50	Will Merritt (So., 0)
RG	79	Gary Byrd (Fr., 0)	64	Jeremy Carroll (Fr., 0)
RT	61	Akil Smith (So., 1)	72	David Haselden (Fr., 0)
TE	88	T.J. Watkins (So., 1)	89	Jason LeMay (Fr., 0)
QB	**14**	**Brandon Streeter (Sr., 2)**	11	Woodrow Dantzler (So., 1)
RB	**8**	**Travis Zachery (So., 1)**	5	Javis Austin (Jr., 2)
FB	26	Terry Witherspoon (Sr., 2)	36	Vince Ciurciu (So., 1)
WR	**25**	**Brian Wofford (Sr., 3)**	81	Mike Seth (Jr., 2)

DEFENSE (6)

DE	**99**	**Gary Childress (Jr., 2)**	86	Nick Eason (Fr., 0)
DT	76	Jason Holloman (Jr., 2)	92	Terry Jolly (Jr., 2)
DT	35	Damonte McKenzie (Sr., 3)	95	Jovon Bush (So., 1)
DE	**93**	**Terry Bryant (Jr., 2)**	49	Kenzi Ross (Jr., 2)
LB	48	Braxton Williams (So., 1)	42	Altroy Bodrick (So., 1)
LB	**45**	**Harold Means (Sr., 3)**	46	Chad Carson (So., 1)
LB	43	Keith Adams (So., 1)	32	J.J. McKelvey (Fr., 0)
CB	**28**	**Alex Ardley (So., 1)**	30	Darrel Crutchfield (Jr., 2)
CB	**12**	**DoMarco Fox (Sr., 3)**	34	Dextra Polite (Sr., 2)
SS	40	Charles Hafley (So., 1)	2	Eric Meekins (Fr., 0)
FS	**9**	**Robert Carswell (Jr., 2)**	31	Chad Speck (Jr., 2)

SPECIAL TEAMS

K	38	Ryan Romano (Jr., 0)
P	38	Ryan Romano (Jr., 0)
KR	84	Mal Lawyer (Sr., 3)
PR	84	Mal Lawyer (Sr., 3)

(#) Indicates number of returning starters
***BOLD** indicates returning starters*
NUMBER after class indicates letters won

Head Coach: Tommy Bowden | **1998 Record (ACC): 3–8 (1–7)**
1999 Prediction: 7th ACC | **Memorial Stadium (81,473)**

Kentucky Wildcats

71

The University of Kentucky football team won seven games for the first time in 14 seasons last fall. The Wildcats averaged nearly 38 points per game. They beat LSU and had Steve Spurrier tossing his visor at Florida Field. Their passing attack started the season near the top of every NCAA statistical category and stayed there.

Steve Woltmann

Derek Homer

But there is still one question that inquiring minds in the Southeastern Conference want to know: Should the success be credited to quarterback Tim Couch or head coach Hal Mumme?

14 That's how many consecutive games the Wildcats have lost to Tennessee. And most of them have been like last season's lopsided 59–21 defeat. UK must close the gap between the programs if it hopes to move up in the SEC East.

We'll find out shortly. Couch decided to wave off his senior season and take his nuclear arm to the National Football League. Mumme decided to do what he has done several times in his pass-happy career: rebuild with a fresh quarterback.

"Our guys think they're pretty good," Mumme says. "I'm not going to go in there and tell them that they're not. Young teams can win."

Optimists in the Kentucky camp will remind you that Couch didn't win until Mumme arrived in 1997, and that Mumme has replaced quarterbacks before. He knows the drill, and the drill is pass, pass, pass.

Just don't ask the coach who will do the throwing in September. Three candidates — sophomore Dusty Bonner and redshirt freshmen Chase Harp and Mike Scipione — got all the reps in spring practice, and they share one characteristic: none completed a pass last season. Mumme will likely keep the competition open through fall drills and take a serious look at incoming freshman Jared Lorenzen, the most acclaimed quarterback produced in the state since Couch.

Running backs Derek Homer and Anthony White combined to run for more than 1,000 yards last season and will ensure that UK is not as entirely dependent upon the pass.

Look for wide receiver Quentin McCord to assume a big-play role. He auditioned last season with an 80-yard end-around for a touchdown against South Carolina and a 38-yard run that set up the game-winning field goal against LSU. Senior Jimmy Robinson has been the tallest target the last two seasons, but those days are over. Look for freshman Bobby Blizzard to use his 6'7", 265-pound body to punish tacklers when the Wildcats deploy a tight end formation.

Pass protection is non-negotiable for a team that throws the ball 50 times a game, and all five offensive line starters are gone. Right tackle Matt Brown, center Nolan DeVaughn and right guard Josh Parrish all played most of the Outback Bowl.

After Penn State ran over, around and through defensive end Dennis Johnson in the Outback Bowl, the 1997 *USA Today* Defensive Player of the Year reported to the weight room. He and Gordon Crowe provide the threat of a pass rush. But the Wildcats need Johnson to dominate the line of scrimmage. Mumme moved Jimmy Haley from tight end to defensive tackle, where he'll battle John Robinson for one spot. Veteran George Massey will take the other position.

Linebacker Jeff Snedegar plays as if he wants to hurt somebody because he was moved from quarterback as a redshirt freshman. Marlon McCree returns at the other outside spot. He's faster than Snedegar and also plays with an edge to his game. John Rader was a pleasant surprise in the middle last season, but needs to get bigger and faster.

Safety Willie Gary is trying to return from major knee surgery and cornerback Jeremy Bowie was held out of spring drills to rest a painful shoulder. Speed has been emphasized in recruiting, and it's time for some of those speedy legs to deliver.

Bowie, Patrick Wiggins, Anthony Kelly, Chris Gayton and Moned Sneed will get a chance to unseat starters Eric Kelly, Kenneth Grant and David Johnson in a secondary that gave up two touchdowns per game last season.

Seth Hanson did more than beat Louisiana State with a last-second field goal. He also made 10-of-14 other kicks, including 4-of-6 from 40 yards or more. Andy Smith has a stronger leg than Jimmy Carter, the punter he replaces, but the ability to punt the ball out of bounds is what Mumme looks for. Kendrick Shanklin will get first call as a return man.

Depth Chart

OFFENSE (2)

WR	9 Jimmy Robinson (Sr., 2)	80 Edgar Gantt (Fr, 0)
LT	74 Omar Smith (Jr., 1)	66 Cory Holman (Jr., 0)
LG	58 Aaron Daniel (Jr., 2)	69 Jerry LeGrand (So., 0)
C	57 Nolan DeVaughn (So., 1)	55 Derrick Johnson (So., 1)
RG	71 Josh Parrish (So., 1)	79 Tramaine Gaines (Fr., 0)
RT	72 Matt Brown (So., 1)	78 Matt Burke (Fr., 0)
QB	15 Dusty Bonner (So., 1)	Jared Lorenzen (Fr., 0)
HB	**32 Anthony White (Sr., 2)**	23 Kendrick Shanklin (So., 1)
FB	**42 Derek Homer (Jr., 2)**	4 Martez Johnson (So., 1)
WR	82 Garry Davis (Jr., 2)	88 Dougie Allen (So., 1)
WR	25 Quentin McCord (Jr., 2)	87 Mike Beirne (So., 1)

DEFENSE (8)

LE	**95 Gordon Crowe (Sr., 3)**	73 Adrian Patton (So., 1)
LT	46 John Robinson (Fr., 0)	**37 Jimmy Haley (Sr., 3)**
RT	97 George Massey (Sr., 3)	90 Patrick Wells (Fr., 0)
RE	**56 Dennis Johnson (So., 1)**	41 Matt Layow (Jr., 2)
LB	**17 Jeff Snedegar (Sr., 3)**	34 Lee Wesley (Sr., 3)
LB	**93 John Rader (Jr., 2)**	51 Chris Demaree (So., 1)
LB	**30 Marlon McCree (Jr., 2)**	8 Ronnie Riley (So., 1)
LC	**20 Eric Kelly (Jr., 2)**	38 Jeremy Bowie (Jr., 2)
RC	36 Kenneth Grant (Jr., 2)	5 Patrick Wiggins (So., 0)
SS	**6 David Johnson (So., 1)**	1 Anthony Kelly (So., 1)
FS	27 Willie Gary (Jr., 2)	24 Anthony Wajda (So., 1)

SPECIAL TEAMS

K	10 Seth Hanson (Jr., 2)
P	14 Andy Smith (Sr., 0)
KR	23 Kendrick Shanklin (So., 1)
PR	23 Kendrick Shanklin (So., 1)

(#) Indicates number of returning starters
***BOLD** indicates returning starters*
NUMBER after class indicates letters won

Head Coach: Hal Mumme — **1998 Record (SEC): 7–5 (4–4)**
1999 Prediction: 6th SEC East — **Commonwealth Stadium (57,800)**

Louisiana Tech Bulldogs

72

Despite losing both its head coach and the nation's top pass receiver, Louisiana Tech football should continue to enjoy success.

Coach Gary Crowton resigned this off-season with a three-year record of 21–13 and accepted the position of offensive coordinator with the Chicago Bears.

La. Tech SID

Tim Rattay

Jack Bicknell III, for the last two years the Bulldogs' offensive line coach, takes the helm. The new Bulldog mentor is the son of Jack Bicknell II, the former head coach at Boston College currently directing the Barcelona Dragons of NFL Europe.

Promoting from within should ensure a seamless transition for a team that returns 18 starters plus both kickers.

1998 Tim Rattay threw for over 500 yards three times, led the nation in total offense, broke eight Louisiana Tech records and led all quarterbacks in the nation in touchdown passes and yards, all in 1998.

Gone from the nation's most potent passing attack is wide receiver Troy Edwards, who caught an NCAA-high 140 passes for a record 1,996 yards. But all the other key components are still in place.

Tim Rattay still pulls the trigger and he doesn't miss a lot of targets. In 1998, Rattay completed 68 percent of his passes (380-of-559) for 4,943 yards and 46 touchdowns. No mistake, these are one-year numbers. Despite netting minus-78 rushing yards due to sacks, the slinging senior still led the nation in total offense and ranked fourth in passing efficiency.

The top three ball carriers return from a year ago, including John Simon and Bobby Ray Tell. The 5'6", 200-pound Tell squirted through enough openings to pick up 549 yards at a rate of 5.4 per carry. Simon brings all-purpose skills to the tailback position. Simon was second to Tell in rushing and also hauled in 40 passes for 385 yards. Senior fullback Terry Pratt is back for those occasions when Tech uses a two-back set. Pratt had 22 carries for 119 yards and two touchdowns last year.

James Jordan's 56 catches in '98 top the returnees at wideout. Bicknell has high hopes for Jordan and believes the 6'3" sophomore can develop into an impact player. Delwyn Daigre (40 catches, 540 yards) and Jordan are returning starters, with junior Sean Cangelosi moving into Edwards' spot in the Bulldogs' three-wideout offense. Add newcomer Faheem Ali, a transfer from Eastern Michigan, Devon Long, Allen Stark and a crop of talented redshirt freshmen, and the Bulldogs have another talented receiving corps.

At tight end, David Newman is a 6'7", 255-pound third tackle who added four touchdown catches for good measure.

Four returning starters — tackles Joey Chustz and Robert Skapura, guard Rob Koontz and center David St. Marie — still man the trenches. Chustz and Skapura are rangy 300-pounders who excel in pass protection. Sophomore Randy Richard takes over at left guard in a line that surrendered just 17 sacks in 618 pass plays a year ago.

Defensive end Jerome King, tackle Jarrett Procell and nose guard Otis Pitts all return to the starting lineup as seniors after combining for six sacks and 11 tackles for loss in 1998. Senior Desmond Nunnery, who posted six tackles for loss in a backup role in '98, has dibs on the vacancy at end.

Damon Harrington returns at middle linebacker after leading the club in tackles with 119 and contributing seven stops behind the line. Quincy Stewart also notched more than 100 tackles while splitting time on the weak side with Nathan Darby. The assignment on the strong side will come down to a battle between Brian Bradford, who saw action in all 12 games a year ago, and Andrius Vitto.

Senior cornerback Frederick Lewis returns after a productive 1998 in which he picked off five enemy aerials, averaging 17.2 yards per return, and broke up six others. Junior Roderick Pernetter broke up nine and is back in the other corner.

At strong safety is Bobby Gray, who collected 83 tackles and three fumble recoveries as a freshman starter last fall. Senior Clint Davis and freshman Michael John Lenard are vying for the free safety job.

Trent Wierick, Kevin Pond and Nathan Berry all return after combining for 9-of-10 in field goals last season. Wierick was 6-for-6. Caleb Price averaged 40 yards per punt with a long of 64. Tell, Simon and Cangelosi have been tabbed as return specialists. Tell averaged 11.4 yards on five punt returns.

Depth Chart

OFFENSE (9)

WR	**9 Delwyn Daigre (So., 1)**	88 Devon Long (Sr., 0)
LT	**66 Joey Chustz (Sr., 3)**	73 Logan Hulett (So., 1)
LG	79 Randy Richard (So., 1)	58 Shawn Murff (Fr., 0)
C	**61 David St. Marie (Sr., 1)**	78 Selby Brown (Jr., 0)
RG	**65 Rob Koontz (Sr., 3)**	75 Shannon Babineaux (So., 1)
RT	**77 Robert Skapura (Sr., 1)**	62 Joey Morgan (Jr., 0)
TE	**85 David Newman (Jr., 2)**	84 Justin Durbin (Fr., 0)
QB	**13 Tim Rattay (Sr., 2)**	7 Brian Stallworth (So., 1)
TB	8 John Simon (So., 1)	**22 Bobby Ray Tell (Sr., 3)**
WR	**83 James Jordan (So., 1)**	86 Allen Stark (So., 1)
WR	81 Sean Cangelosi (Jr., 2)	6 Faheem Ali (Jr., 0)

DEFENSE (9)

DE	59 Desmond Nunnery (Sr., 3)	56 Foster Bradberry (So., 1)
DT	**93 Jarrett Procell (Sr., 3)**	96 Chris Willis (Sr., 3)
NG	**94 Otis Pitts (Sr., 3)**	90 Steve Walker (Sr., 1)
DE	**99 Jerome King (Sr., 2)**	92 Carlin Thomas (Fr., 0)
LB	49 Brian Bradford (Sr., 2)	50 Andrius Vitto (So., 0)
LB	**51 Damon Harrington (Sr., 3)**	36 Brandon Avance (Fr., 0)
LB	**25 Quincy Stewart (Jr., 2)**	**67 Nathan Darby (Sr., 2)**
CB	**3 Roderick Pernetter (Jr., 2)**	29 Dewey Simpson (Sr., 2)
CB	**27 Frederick Lewis (Sr., 2)**	39 Terrence Jefferson (So., 0)
SS	**19 Bobby Gray (So., 1)**	2 Montoya Gipson (So., 0)
FS	23 Clint Davis (Sr., 2)	10 Michael John Lenard (Fr., 0)

SPECIAL TEAMS

K	95 Trent Wierick (So., 1)
P	15 Caleb Price (Jr., 1)
KR	22 Bobby Ray Tell (Sr., 3)
PR	81 Sean Cangelosi (Jr., 2)

(#) Indicates number of returning starters
***BOLD** indicates returning starters*
NUMBER after class indicates letters won

Head Coach: Jack Bicknell III **1998 Record (Independent): 7–5**
Joe Aillet Stadium (30,600)

Toledo Rockets

73

The Rockets have posted more wins during the 1990s than any other MAC school, but chinks in the armor are starting to show. Yes, Toledo has won four division or overall titles this decade. Yes, the Rockets won their second straight Western Division title, but for the second year in a row the Rockets were eliminated in the MAC championship game by Marshall.

Toledo SID

Colin Westrich

Now, they're without one of the best quarterbacks in school history in departed Chris Wallace and minus prolific runners Wasean Tait and Dwayne Harris. The skill people on offense will be almost entirely new while the defense, one of the MAC's best, has a few holes to fill. Coach Gary Pinkel is striving for consistency on both sides of the ball.

7 Number of home games the Rockets play in 1999, an impressive figure for a MAC school. It's the most for Toledo since 1949 — but the Rockets only won four of those games.

But when 7–5 (6–2 in the MAC) is considered a down year, you've got things on the right track. Toledo is gunning for its sixth straight winning season. The Rockets have garnered significant respect in the last five years, particularly in the Midwest. They can turn some heads in the East when Syracuse visits the Glass Bowl on Sept. 2.

With Wallace gone, competition for quarterback is wide open. Early in the spring it looked like junior Dan Cole had an edge over sophomore Tavares Bolden and redshirt freshman Justin Larrick. Of the three, only Cole had significant game action last year, and he only attempted two passes in two games.

The winner of the quarterback derby will hand off to junior tailback Chester Taylor, who averaged 5.5 yards per carry, ran for 570 yards and scored five TDs in limited work last year. Lyle Green returns as the slotback, where the 6'1" junior caught 10 balls for 110 yards last year.

Three veteran receivers were lost, but Toledo should benefit from the return of senior tight end Mike Bilik and junior wideout Mel Long. Senior Jason Turner is going to get a long look at one wide receiver slot, but could get bumped by Justin Winkler, Jason Green, Manny Johnson or Clint Mondell.

The offensive line is a mixed blessing — 10 players from last year's two-deep return, but a handful missed time in spring ball nursing injuries. Weakside tackle Colin Westrich, an All-MAC selection last year, is a sixth-year senior; weak guard Mike Lenix will be a seventh-year senior. However, Lenix and strongside tackle Jovan Ilich missed most of spring drills. Sophomore Matt Comer will open the spring at strong guard. With Nick Otterbacher at center, Mike Schaefer at weak guard and Jim Harding at strong tackle all locks barring injury, the unit is the deepest in the MAC.

The Rockets' defense held MAC opponents under 17 points in all but one game. Twenty of the 24 players who appeared on the two-deep for at least two games are back.

Says Pinkel: "We improved on defense last year and we have a chance to get significantly better."

Defensive end DeJuan Goulde was second-team All-MAC after racking up 43 tackles, six sacks and 12 tackles for losses. Sameer Hamood holds down one defensive tackle slot, having led all defensive linemen with 55 tackles last year. Hamood sat out the spring after shoulder surgery but should be up to par for the fall. Sophomore tackle Jim Barker is another promising run-stuffer.

Toledo is fierce across the middle with All-MAC inside linebacker Jason Lamar back for his senior season. Lamar was second on the team with 119 tackles. Junior Kevin Rollins completes the inside tandem. Rollins had 68 tackles last year. Co-captain Keith Travis had six tackles for loss and three interceptions from the outside linebacker slot.

The Rockets' other captain, Jameel Turner, returns at cornerback after 66 tackles and one interception last year. Junior Marcus Hill and sophomore James Stanley spent the spring competing for time at the other corner. Sophomore free safety Andy Boyd impressed in his first year, starting eight games. Ira Singleton and Corey Morris were battling in spring ball for the starting nod at strong safety.

Sophomore kicker Todd France is back. Greg Grothous will probably punt, although he will be pushed by Jim Eberly. Look for Long and Turner to get the first shots at returning kicks this fall.

Depth Chart

OFFENSE (8)

WR	80	**Mel Long (Jr., 2)**	3	Manny Johnson (Fr., 0)
LT	75	**Colin Westrich (Sr., 3)**	78	**Greg Peters (Sr., 3)**
LG	62	**Michael Schaefer (Jr., 2)**	71	Mike Lenix (Sr., 2)
C	69	**Nick Otterbacher (So., 1)**	60	Chris Tuminello (Fr., 0)
RG	73	Matt Comer (So., 1)	67	Steve Barnes (Jr., 0)
RT	68	**Jim Harding (Jr., 2)**	63	Jovan Ilich (Jr., 2)
TE	94	**Mike Bilik (Sr., 2)**	91	Jason Spiece (So., 0)
QB	11	Dan Cole (Jr., 0)	1	Tavares Bolden (So., 0)
FB	28	**Lyle Green (Jr., 2)**	86	Eric Easter (Fr., 0)
RB	19	Chester Taylor (Jr., 1)	34	Mike Sickles (So., 0)
WR	88	Jason Turner (Sr., 1)	14	Dustin Winkler (So., 0)

DEFENSE (8)

DE	98	Rudy Lomberger (Jr., 1)	37	Brian King (Fr., 0)
DT	90	**Sameer Hamood (So., 1)**	83	Jake McLean (So., 1)
DT	58	**Jim Barker (So., 1)**	92	Jonathan Cunningham (Jr., 0)
DE	45	**DeJuan Goulde (Jr., 1)**	56	Torrance Craddieth (Jr., 0)
LB	10	**Keith Travis (Sr.,3)**	32	Antjuan Savage (Sr., 0)
LB	55	**Jason Lamar (Sr., 2)**	46	Fred Schultz (Jr., 1)
LB	8	**Kevin Rollins (Jr., 2)**	52	Jason Manson (So., 0)
CB	20	Marcus Hill (Jr., 0)	25	James Stanley (So., 0)
CB	9	**Jameel Turner (Sr., 3)**	24	Jehu Anderson (Fr., 0)
SS	2	Ira Singleton (Jr., 1)	15	Corey Morris (So., 1)
FS	42	**Andy Boyd (So., 1)**	23	Olanzo Jarrett (Fr., 0)

SPECIAL TEAMS

K	43	Todd France (So., 1)
P	85	Greg Grothous (Fr., 0)
KR	80	Mel Long (Jr., 2)
PR	9	Jameel Turner (Sr., 3)

(#) Indicates number of returning starters
***BOLD** indicates returning starters*
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Head Coach: Gary Pinkel — **1998 Record (MAC): 7–5 (6–2)**
1999 Prediction: 2nd MAC West — **Glass Bowl (26,248)**

Central Florida Golden Knights

74

A 9–2 record and no bowl invite left the UCF community understandably miffed, especially since 6–5 proved good enough for some. Without a conference, coach Mike Kruczek's crew can count on being home for the holidays.

Quarterback Daunte Culpepper departs UCF, leaving 11,412 career passing yards and 84 scoring tosses in his wake for the nation's seventh-most potent offense. Culpepper was selected by the Minnesota Vikings in the NFL Draft.

Paul Chappmann

Kenny Clark

Fortunately, there are seven starters back from last year's defense, which wasn't a bad unit, ranking 26th overall nationally. But just three return on offense. With Kruczek entering his second year at the helm, the Golden Knights will sport an entirely new look.

4,174 The number of yards that departing quarterback Daunte Culpepper accumulated by throwing (3,690), running (463) and receiving (21) in 1998.

Not only has Culpepper graduated, but so has his backup, Jason Thorpe. There isn't a quarterback around who has taken a snap at UCF. Junior Kelvin Robinson and redshirt freshman Brad Banks both redshirted in '98 and struggled this spring, opening the door for Victor Penn, the 1997 SEC All-Freshman quarterback at South Carolina who spent 1998 at Garden City (Kan.) Community College. The 6'1" Miami native enters UCF this fall with two years of eligibility and a penchant for passing.

A stable of hungry ball carriers will bring balance to the offense. Junior Edward Mack, who posted a team-leading 6.2-yard average on 76 carries, takes over at tailback. Omari Howard, a former *Parade* All-American, saw action in five games as a true freshman. Dwight Collins is equally effective at fullback and tailback. Juco sensation Terrance Williams could outdo them all. Senior Page Sessoms returns at fullback, where he has primarily been a blocker.

The graduation of Siaha Burley and Mark Nonsant opens up full-time starting assignments for wideouts Charles Lee and Kenny Clark, who combined for 86 receptions and nine TDs in '98. Lee has the speed to break a game open; Clark, a part-time starter a year ago, catches anything that comes in his general vicinity and runs well after the catch. Sophomore Blake Thames moves up to first team at tight end.

The offensive line has been rebuilt around a pair of 320-pound returnees — tackle Frank Haynes and center Chris Lorenti. David Wilson moves into the vacant tackle spot, with Ahmed El-Hawary and John Beauchamp at the guards. All three are battle-tested. The starting five total 1,500 pounds of run-blocking power.

On defense, the front four returns intact two deep. The starting unit of senior Marv Richardson and junior Fred Harley at end, senior Justen Moore and junior Jeff Mauldin at tackle spent a lot of time in opponents' backfields and proved a formidable force against the run. Moore is especially unmanageable; he led the team with 12 tackles for loss and eight sacks.

Edwin Ferguson, a backup end last year, is vying with sophomore Tito Rodriguez at drop linebacker, with junior Willie Davis and sophomore Tony Hardman contending on the weak side. Senior Deaubrey Devine is a returning starter and a steadying influence in the middle. Devine is best remembered for his performance in the '97 Nebraska game, in which he amassed 22 tackles and a fumble recovery.

As good as the Golden Knights' defense is against the run, the strength of the unit is the secondary. Junior Damian Demps, who led the '98 Knights in tackles with 92, including five for loss, returns to his strong safety post. Junior Tyrell Rice moves up at free safety. Senior Jeff Fye, a tenacious, physical cover corner, collected Big Stick Awards for the most memorable hits in four separate games a year ago. Transfer Travis Fisher moved ahead of veteran backup Davin Bush in the other corner this spring.

Sophomore Javier Beorlegui, who split the punting chores with Chad Downey last season, takes over full-time in that capacity, and has added the placekicking chores to his job description.

Return duties, handled so well by Burley and Paul Miranda last year, could fall to Mack and one or more of the newcomers. Mack averaged 18.6 yards on eight kickoff returns in '98.

Depth Chart

OFFENSE (3)

SE	84	Charles Lee (Sr., 2)	19	Tavirus Davis (So., 1)
ST	**79**	**Frank Haynes (Sr., 3)**	68	Kurt Baumann (Jr., 1)
SG	78	Ahmed El-Hawary (Jr., 2)	66	Willie Comerford (So., 0)
C	**76**	**Chris Lorenti (Jr., 2)**	51	Chance Hutto (Fr., 0)
QG	69	John Beauchamp (Jr., 2)	63	Garrett McCray (Fr., 0)
QT	62	David Wilson (Sr., 3)	75	Freddie Moore (Jr., 1)
TE	82	Blake Thames (So., 1)	86	Joey Hubbard (Sr., 3)
QB	12	Victor Penn (Jr., 0)	17	Kelvin Robinson (Jr., 0)
FB	**35**	**Page Sessoms (Sr., 2)**	31	Dwight Collins (Jr., 2)
RB	23	Edward Mack (Jr., 2)	22	Omari Howard (So., 1)
FL	88	Kenny Clark (Jr., 2)	13	Tyson Hinshaw (Jr., 1)

DEFENSE (7)

DE	**80**	**Fred Harley (Jr., 2)**	98	Raheem Pontiflet (Sr., 1)
DT	**85**	**Jeff Mauldin (Jr., 2)**	95	Josh McKibben (So., 1)
DT	**91**	**Justen Moore (Sr., 3)**	93	Scott Dedelow (Sr., 3)
DE	**87**	**Marv Richardson (Sr., 3)**	99	Mike Hulsman (So., 1)
LB	44	Tito Rodriguez (So., 1)	58	Edwin Ferguson (Sr., 1)
LB	**6**	**Deaubrey Devine (Sr., 3)**	9	Chris Gunn (Sr., 0)
LB	46	Willie Davis (Jr., 1)	15	Tony Hardman (So., 1)
CB	3	Travis Fisher (So., 0)	11	Davin Bush (Jr., 2)
CB	**4**	**Jeff Fye (Sr., 2)**	32	Albert Snyder (So., 1)
SS	**10**	**Damian Demps (Jr., 2)**	18	Elliott Shorter (So., 1)
FS	5	Tyrell Rice (Jr., 2)	27	Tommy Shavers (Jr., 1)

SPECIAL TEAMS

K	39	Javier Beorlegui (So., 1)
P	39	Javier Beorlegui (So., 1)
KR	23	Edward Mack (Jr., 2)
PR	4	Jeff Fye (Sr., 2)

(#) Indicates number of returning starters
***BOLD** indicates returning starters*
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Head Coach: Mike Kruczek — **1998 Record (Independent): 9–2**
Florida Citrus Bowl (70,188)

Tulane Green Wave

75

What an act to follow. In 1997, Tommy Bowden took over a Tulane football program that had won a grand total of 11 games in the previous five seasons and hadn't had a winning record in 16 years. Two years later the Green Wave stood at 12–0, one of only two undefeated teams in America.

Dwight King

Toney Converse

But at the end of the regular season, Bowden left to reclaim Clemson from the ashes.

Tulane moved quickly to hire Chris Scelfo, a 35-year-old south Louisiana native and for the last three years the assistant head coach at Georgia, and Scelfo expresses nothing but praise for Bowden and Buddy Teevens (Bowden's predecessor) and their staffs, for the high-quality student-athletes they brought in and the atmosphere of success that now surrounds the program. Now it's time to work.

45.4 The number of points per game tallied by Tulane in 1998, the second-highest average in the nation.

The Green Wave concluded spring practice with sophomore Patrick Ramsey and redshirt freshman Derrick Joseph dead even at quarterback. Ramsey, a pure dropback passer, was 3-of-5 last year in three games as Shaun King's backup. The Conference USA track and field javelin champion, Ramsey can throw the ball deep and put it on target.

Joseph brings a different dimension to the offense. He is an electrifying runner with 4.4 speed who spent the spring polishing his throwing technique. Shaun King the duo are not. Scelfo is toying with the idea of playing Joseph at another position part-time to get him on the field and take advantage of his considerable skills while Ramsey is calling signals.

Junior Toney Converse returns at running back after leading the Greenies in rushing a year ago with 871 yards and a 5.6-yard average. Two years ago, Converse was the only freshman to be named to the All-C-USA team after posting a school record 5.7-yard average.

Leading receiver P.J. Franklin has graduated, but Ramsey and Joseph are certainly not at a loss for fast, dangerous targets.

JaJuan Dawson caught 68 balls last fall, a team-high 12 of which went for scores. Kerwin Cook caught 27 for 405 yards and turned this year's spring game into a personal highlight reel. Adrian Burnette and Terrell Harris have seen lots of action and are vying at the third wideout position. Senior tight end Mike Turner returns.

Tulane's offensive linemen are not particularly large, but behind them the Wave compiled the fourth-highest total offense numbers in the nation, including more than 200 yards per game on the ground.

Four quality starters return. Two of them, left tackle Bernard Robertson and left guard Jerry Godfrey, were all-conference. A third, right guard Corey Sewell, was C-USA All-Freshman. Senior Kapua Conley returns at center, with Charles Caldwell, a C-USA All-Freshman performer in 1997 who was academically ineligible in '98, at right tackle.

Eight defensive starters have graduated, including all four linemen. Junior Mitch Mouton was a fifth starter in the line last year, drawing the assignment in the SMU game for an injured Dennis O'Sullivan. Ends Brent Hamilton and Ryan Brewer have some experience and are more athletic than their predecessors at the position.

Redshirt freshman Roxie Shelvin, a Louisiana state champion wrestler in high school, joins Brewer at tackle.

The strength of the rebuilding defense is its array of quick, active linebackers. Jerry Phillips returns in the middle after leading the team in tackles with 104, including six for losses. Sedric Clemons is back on the strong side, with Kevin Dukes moving up on the weak side.

Tulane led the conference in interceptions two years ago and finished a close second in '98, leaving a high standard for a green bunch to live up to. The lone returning starter in the secondary is free safety Sam Knight, who led the defensive backs in tackles with 68. But when Knight was injured in game 10 vs. Houston, Meldon Barnes replaced him, notched 22 tackles in the contest and seized the '99 starting assignment. Tim Carter takes over in one corner after picking off a pair of passes in 1998, with Allen Phillips in the other corner and Corey Jones at strong safety.

Sophomore Casey Roussel, with no college experience, will kick and punt. The diminutive (5'5") John Wilson will perform double duty, returning both kickoffs and punts.

Depth Chart

OFFENSE (8)

WR	20	**JaJuan Dawson (Sr., 3)**	86	Zander Robinson (So., 1)
LT	74	**Bernard Robertson (Jr., 2)**	61	Derick Bugg (Fr., 0)
LG	77	**Jerry Godfrey (Sr., 3)**	57	Tony Cunningham (Jr., 2)
C	55	**Kapua Conley (Sr., 3)**	66	Torie Taulli (So., 1)
RG	56	**Corey Sewell (So., 1)**	53	Bryson Westbrook (Jr., 2)
RT	71	Charles Caldwell (So., 1)	75	Chrys Bullock (So., 1)
TE	46	**Mike Turner (Sr., 3)**	85	Joseph Akin (So., 1)
QB	7	Patrick Ramsey (So., 1)	11	Derrick Joseph (Fr., 0)
RB	23	**Toney Converse (Jr., 2)**	25	Genario Reshard (So., 0)
WR	83	Adrian Burnette (Jr., 2)	22	Terrell Harris (So., 1)
WR	84	**Kerwin Cook (Jr., 2)**	27	Brant Hocke (So., 0)

DEFENSE (3)

DE	96	Brent Hamilton (Jr., 2)	91	Kenan Blackmon (Fr., 0)
DT	97	Mitch Mouton (Jr., 2)	50	Percy Branon (Fr., 0)
DT	89	Roxie Shelvin (Fr., 0)	88	Matthew Glapion (Jr., 1)
DE	59	Ryan Brewer (So., 1)	58	Cory Green (Jr., 2)
LB	38	**Sedric Clemons (Sr., 3)**	28	Noel Ellis (Jr., 2)
LB	30	**Jerry Phillips (Jr., 2)**	37	Allen Davis (Fr., 0)
LB	17	Kevin Dukes (Sr., 3)	34	David Dorsey (So., 1)
CB	15	Tim Carter (Jr., 2)	31	Ky Joseph (Jr., 2)
CB	29	Allen Phillips (Jr., 2)	2	Jamal Jones (So., 1)
SS	42	Corey Jones (Jr., 2)	39	Delando Davis (So., 1)
FS	33	Meldon Barnes (So., 1)	24	**Sam Knight (Jr., 2)**

SPECIAL TEAMS

K	36	Casey Roussel (So., 0)
P	36	Casey Roussel (So., 0)
KR	1	John Wilson (Jr., 2)
PR	1	John Wilson (Jr., 2)

(#) Indicates number of returning starters
***BOLD** indicates returning starters*
NUMBER after class indicates letters won

Head Coach: Chris Scelfo **1998 Record (C-USA): 12–0 (6–0)**
1999 Prediction: 5th C-USA **Louisiana Superdome (69,767)**

SMU Mustangs

76

In Mike Cavan's inaugural campaign in '97, SMU enjoyed its first winning season in more than a decade. Last year, the Mustangs went 5–7, wading through 12 straight Saturdays without a break and playing five bowl teams. This year, both the schedule and the Mustangs look a little better.

"It's time for this football team to step up and compete for a championship," Cavan says. "The league has been cut in half and we've had a couple of good recruiting classes. Hopefully, these guys will be able to see that now, we're ready." Cavan can point to 12 returning starters from a team that finished strong. "We have good talent now, and the best senior class since I've been here. But as always we'll need help from newcomers stepping into vacant spots, and a lot will depend on getting young guys ready to play."

Layne Murdoch

Josh McCown

14 The SMU defense ranked 14th in the nation last year, giving up 297.2 yards per game. The Mustangs also forced 28 turnovers (tied for 17th nationally).

After leading the team in passing (1,050 yards) for the second year in a row, sophomore Chris Sanders transferred to Tennessee-Chattanooga. That leaves the job in the hands of Josh McCown, who had his moments. McCown was the starting quarterback in three victories and threw for 619 yards with eight interceptions and seven touchdowns. The main question mark now is depth.

Rodnick Phillips is a jolting runner who is SMU's first 1,000-yard back since the "Pony Express" days. He rushed for 1,115 yards on 239 carries (4.7) despite sharing time with now-departed Kelsey Adams. He scored 10 TDs, one on a pass reception.

Depth at I-back is a key to the attack, and Brendan McGraw and Jason Pipkins may have to give way to coveted recruit Kris Briggs, who ran for nearly 4,000 yards in his last two high school seasons. Jeff Pennington, a bruising blocker, returns at fullback, but will be spelled by transfer Jeff Woods when the Mustangs switch to a split-back set.

The only experienced wide receivers are Damond Blueitt and Tony Newsome. The Mustangs signed three top prospects: Marcus Carter, Chris Cunningham and Cody Cardwell. All figure to make their presence felt. Until they do, the Mustangs will rely on Newsome and Blueitt, who had 24 of his 37 catches in the final five games, along with backups Rob Fowler and Bryan McDearman. Tight ends Michael Brown and Jeff Henderson will be pushed by redshirt freshman David Ellen.

From tackle to tackle the Mustang linemen are large and experienced. The probable key is Rich Nichols, who Cavan says "has looked very good at center."

This allows Austin Adami to move to the left guard slot, after 23 consecutive starts at center. And Trey Bandy could move into the right tackle spot. This would leave Jerry Chavira at left tackle, where he has been for 22 games, and possibly install James McCarthy at the other guard. Also back is Bill Holder, who is equally adept at guard or tackle but is still fighting off a two-year-old knee injury.

If end Luke Johnson shows no ill effects from the knee injury that sidelined him for part of the season, the defensive line will also be a strength. The WAC Defensive Newcomer of the Year in '97, he missed the final three games in '98.

The team took a blow in the spring game with an injury to tackle Alex Pahula; a replacement will be selected in two-a-days. Chase Schavrda played well at the other tackle after being switched from tight end. Markus Pratt has moved in at end.

The three starters at linebacker represent a major strength, beginning with senior Jason Simonton, an All-WAC performer in the middle. Simonton led the team with 131 tackles, including 91 solos. The outside spots will be manned by Vic Viloria and Kevin Aldridge, who combined for 92 tackles as freshmen.

With the departure of three seniors, including All-WAC corner Jacoby Rhinehart, a solid secondary must now be largely rebuilt.

There are two outstanding returnees in Tracy Hart and Raymon Brown. Hart, who had five interceptions and two fumble recoveries, will move from safety to cornerback while Brown will be back at free safety. Kevin Garrett will have a shot at the other corner, while Tommy Dorsey, a special teams whiz last year, will move in at strong safety.

A poor season by placekicker Roy Rios was offset by the punting of Colin Vadheim, who averaged 42.1 yards. Adam Walterscheid will take Rios' job. McDearman returned 28 punts for 138 yards last year, while Phillips, Tim Gardner and Pipkins can all return kickoffs.

Depth Chart

OFFENSE (7)

WR	6	Tony Newsome (Jr., 2)	82	Rob Fowler (Jr., 0)
LT	**62**	**Jerry Chavira (Sr., 3)**	77	Aaron Ladd (Jr., 0)
LG	**70**	**Austin Adami (Sr., 3)**	73	Judson Davis (Fr., 0)
C	52	Rich Nichols (Jr., 1)	60	Will McKinney (Jr., 2)
RG	74	James McCarthy (So., 1)	**78**	**Bill Holder (Sr., 3)**
RT	**63**	**Trey Bandy (Sr., 3)**	**78**	**Bill Holder (Sr., 3)**
TE	41	Michael Brown (So., 1)	85	Jeff Henderson (So., 1)
QB	15	Josh McCown (So., 1)	14	Steve O'Neill (Jr., 0)
FB	**46**	**Jeff Pennington (Sr., 3)**	26	Jeff Woods (Jr., 0)
RB	**28**	**Rodnick Phillips (Sr., 3)**	34	Brendan McGraw (Sr., 1)
WR	**87**	**Damond Blueitt (Sr., 3)**	33	Bryan McDearman (So., 1)

DEFENSE (5)

DE	56	Markus Pratt (So., 1)	51	Johnson Patman (So., 1)
DT	13	Chase Schavrda (Jr., 2)	67	Joey Slaten (So., 1)
DT	92	Lute Croy (Fr., 0)	67	Joey Slaten (So., 1)
DE	**45**	**Luke Johnson (Sr., 2)**	97	Eric Peterson (So., 0)
LB	11	Kevin Aldridge (So., 1)	42	Billy Jack Williams (Jr., 0)
LB	**36**	**Jason Simonton (Sr., 3)**	58	Paul Wiley (Jr., 0)
LB	**55**	**Vic Viloria (So., 1)**	53	Corey Riley (So., 0)
CB	**20**	**Tracy Hart (Sr., 2)**	39	James Orr (So., 0)
CB	1	Kevin Garrett (Fr., 0)	31	Rusty Simpson (So., 0)
SS	47	Tommy Dorsey (So., 0)	22	Shane O'Neill (So., 0)
FS	**4**	**Raymon Brown (Sr., 3)**	40	Tim Gardner (Sr., 2)

SPECIAL TEAMS

K	30	Adam Walterscheid (So., 1)
P	48	Colin Vadheim (Jr., 1)
KR	28	Rodnick Phillips (Sr., 3)
PR	33	Bryan McDearman (So., 1)

(#) Indicates number of returning starters
***BOLD** indicates returning starters*
NUMBER after class indicates letters won

Head Coach: Mike Cavan — **1998 Record (WAC): 5–7 (4–4)**
1999 Prediction: 3rd WAC — **Cotton Bowl (68,252)**

Oregon State Beavers

77

It took new Oregon State coach Dennis Erickson five minutes to let long-suffering Beaver football players and fans know that he means business. "We want to win games. We want to win the Pac-10. Let's don't settle with little things," Erickson said at the Jan. 12 news conference announcing his hiring as the successor to Mike Riley. "Let's go ahead and get after it and make this one of the best programs in the country, and let's start now."

Steve Woltmann

Ken Simonton

Such talk would normally be considered lunacy, but none of his predecessors had Erickson's credentials. He rebuilt losing programs at Idaho and Washington State, won two national titles at Miami, and turned the Seattle Seahawks into a competitive franchise before being fired last December. He's also a native of the Pacific Northwest and probably won't be looking for greener pastures.

141 The number of receptions lost with the graduations of Greg Ainsworth, Tim Alexander and James Battle.

Several components are already in place. OSU returns a veteran offensive line, starting sophomore quarterback Jonathan Smith, and a 1,000-yard rusher in sophomore tailback Ken Simonton. Plus, the schedule is favorable.

Smith had a fairy-tale season as a walk-on redshirt freshman after taking over from Terrance Bryant in the seventh week. He threw for 1,427 yards and six touchdowns and set a Husky Stadium record with a 469-yard performance in a 35–34 loss to Washington.

Those numbers should grow if he holds off a spirited challenge from Bryant, a bigger, stronger athlete who lost his job last year after sustaining a back injury. Bryant doesn't have Smith's touch on the long ball, however.

The smallish (5'7", 181) Simonton proved to be surprisingly durable last season, when he became just the fourth Beaver in history to surpass the 1,000-yard barrier. Simonton also scored 13 touchdowns. Depth is definitely a concern; neither of Simonton's projected backups has carried the ball in a Division I-A game.

The Beavers will have an entirely new look at receiver as junior college transfers Imani Percoats, T.J. Houshmandzadeth and Monjero Jones and former Miami (Fla.) signee Doug Gabriel must step in to bolster a unit that lost three productive seniors.

Percoats, from Merced (Calif.) JC, has only one year of eligibility but couldn't be turned away after catching 87 passes for 1,686 yards.

Holdover Roddy Tompkins and Robert Prescott return, and the Beavers expect big things from James Newson. He was impressive in preseason practice last season before being sidelined for academics.

Martin Maurer is a dependable tight end who should be challenged by Bennie Johnson.

The offensive line showed the most progress in 1998, when the Beavers increased their rushing average from a paltry 82 yards per game to 116 yards per game, while ably protecting the quarterback. That shouldn't change.

Tackle Jason White, guard Aaron Koch and center Keith DiDomenico are legitimate candidates for postseason honors, and tackle Mitch White was a JC All-American. Tackle Mike Kuykendall could contribute, and center Dustin Janz returns after missing a season with an ankle injury.

The Beavers did their best to replace all-star defensive lineman Inoke Breckterfield by signing four juco transfers, including ends DeLawrence Grant and LaDarius Jackson. Toalei Talataina should hold down one end spot. Tackles Shawn Ball and Aaron Wells are two-year starters. Talented '98 signee Eric Manning became eligible in the off-season.

Strong linebacker Micah Moore, a quality backup and special teams player the past three seasons, gets his chance as a starter, replacing Brian Rogers. Jonathan Jackson returns at middle linebacker, a position bolstered by the addition of defensive end Sefa O'Reilly. James Allen and Isaac White, a tailback in 1998, contend for the weak-side job.

The secondary is clearly an area of concern with the graduation of four-year starters Andrae Holland and Armon Hatcher. Free safety Terrence Carroll is a two-year starter and one of OSU's biggest hitters. Cornerback Keith Heyward-Johnson started every game. Big seasons are needed from strong safety Calvin Carlyle and right corner Ricky Walker.

An overhaul of the kicking game is needed with the loss of Jose Cortez, who had four field goals of 50-plus yards in '98. Punter Mike Fessler is a two-year starter, and freshman Ryan Cesca is the projected placekicker. Tompkins will handle returns.

Depth Chart

OFFENSE (6)

SE	80	**Roddy Tompkins (Sr., 3)**	81	T.J. Houshmandzadeth (Jr., 0)
WR	82	Robert Prescott (Jr., 2)	88	Imani Percoats (Jr., 0)
LT	76	**Jason White (Sr., 1)**	70	Mike Kuykendall (Fr., 0)
LG	75	Jared Cornell (Jr., 2)	65	Robert Theus (Sr., 1)
C	79	**Keith DiDomenico (Jr., 2)**	61	Dustin Janz (So., 1)
RG	50	**Aaron Koch (Sr., 3)**	73	Mark Christensen (Fr., 0)
RT	77	Mitch White (Jr., 0)	74	Vincent Sandoval (So., 1)
TE	87	Martin Maurer (Jr., 2)	89	Bennie Johnson (Jr., 0)
QB	9	**Jonathan Smith (So., 1)**	12	Terrance Bryant (Sr., 1)
TB	35	**Ken Simonton (So., 1)**	6	Eric Mobley (So., 1)
FL	2	James Newson (Fr., 0)	83	Monjero Jones (Jr., 0)

DEFENSE (5)

DE	1	DeLawrence Grant (Jr., 0)	91	Greg Petty (Sr., 1)
DT	49	**Aaron Wells (Sr., 3)**	71	Charles O'Neal (Jr., 0)
DT	55	**Shawn Ball (Sr., 3)**	94	Paul Luoma (Sr., 1)
DE	51	Toalei Talataina (Sr., 3)	95	LaDarius Jackson (Jr., 0)
LB	27	Micah Moore (Sr., 3)	5	Darnell Robinson (Jr., 2)
LB	39	**Jonathan Jackson (Sr., 3)**	47	Sefa O'Reilly (Jr., 2)
LB	34	James Allen (So., 1)	40	Isaac White (Sr., 1)
CB	3	**Keith Heyward-Johnson (Jr., 2)**	21	Dennis Weathersby (Fr., 0)
CB	4	Ricky Walker (Jr., 2)	20	Shamon Jamerson (Fr., 0)
SS	32	Calvin Carlyle (So., 1)	22	Chad Carpenter (Jr., 0)
FS	44	**Terrence Carroll (Jr., 2)**	7	Terrance Gray (Jr., 0)

SPECIAL TEAMS

K	41	Ryan Cesca (Fr., 0)
P	99	Mike Fessler (Jr., 2)
KR	80	Roddy Tompkins (Sr., 3)
PR	80	Roddy Tompkins (Sr., 3)

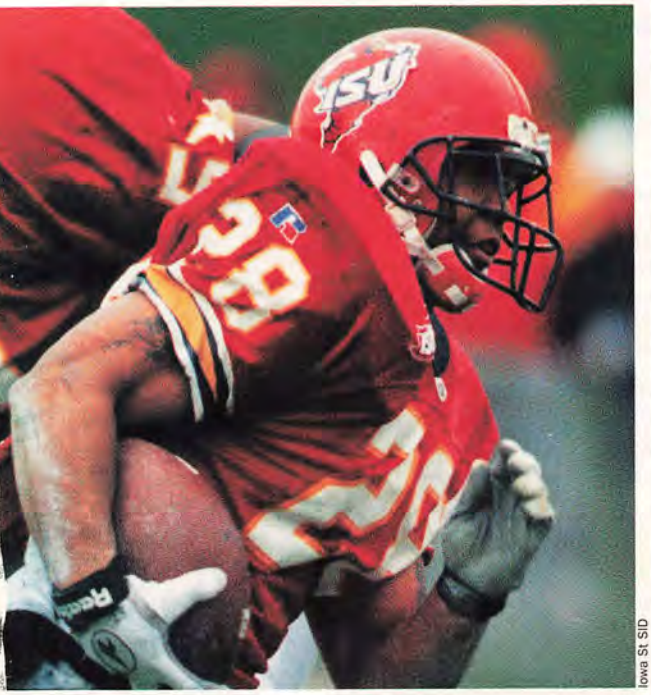
(#) Indicates number of returning starters
***BOLD** indicates returning starters*
NUMBER after class indicates letters won

Head Coach: Dennis Erickson — **1998 Record (Pac-10): 5–6 (2–6)**
1999 Prediction: 9th Pac-10 — **Parker Stadium (35,362)**

Iowa State Cyclones

78

After Iowa State's 27–9 victory at Iowa, Cyclone coach Dan McCarney dyed his brown hair gold, or as close to gold as he could come. He had promised his players he would reward them if they defeated their archrival for the first time since 1982. The enthusiasm that followed that victory was short-lived, however. The Cyclones dropped seven conference games before defeating Kansas to finish 3–8.



Iowa St SID

Darren Davis

That made McCarney's record for four seasons 9–35. Nevertheless, his contract was extended through 2001. "Dan McCarney is the right man for the job," Athletic Director Gene Smith says. Maybe so, but McCarney's enthusiasm will be tested again.

38.1 The percentage of Iowa State's 3,692 rushing and receiving yards for which Darren Davis was responsible last season.

At quarterback, McCarney must replace the graduated Todd Bandhauer, which is no small task considering Bandhauer passed for more than 2,000 yards in each of his last two seasons. Sage Rosenfels and junior college transfer Derrick Walker are the top candidates. Both are mobile, which could mean fewer forced passes and fewer interceptions.

A big part of the offense involves handing or pitching to tailback Darren Davis, who has handled the pressure of following his brother Troy. Barring injury, Darren should move to second on the Cyclones' career-rushing list, behind Troy. Darren didn't lose a fumble in 294 carries last season.

The tailback position is "probably the deepest we have," says McCarney. In addition to Ennis Haywood, a straight-ahead runner, and Atif Austin, the Cyclones will have five freshman running backs, at least some of whom will redshirt. Jerome Heavens, who spent last season in junior college for academic reasons, returns to provide some punch at fullback, joining starter Hez Jackson.

Receivers Damien Groce and Chris Anthony caught 89 passes between them for 1,130 yards and nine touchdowns. Groce has big-play ability. His seven touchdown catches tied for the second-most in Cyclone history. Anthony is more of a possession receiver and as such, is a good complement to Groce. Diminutive J.J. Moses was moved from tailback to flanker during the spring. Tight end Andy Stensrud was recruited as a basketball player, which offers evidence of his athleticism.

In addition to clearing the way for Davis, the young offensive line didn't allow a sack until the eighth game of the season and only nine total. Left tackle Bill Marsau is being counted on for leadership. Ben Beaudet has been moved to center. Marcel Howard will succeed Beaudet at right tackle. Ben Bruns is a returning starter at guard, and guard Ryan Gerke also returns.

The Cyclones improved in every major statistical category defensively and gave up nearly 14 fewer points per game on the average. Even so, they still have a long way to go in developing a run defense.

Tackle James Reed and end Reggie Hayward are the best of the linemen. Reed was a third-team all-conference selection, and Hayward earned all-conference honorable mention, leading the Cyclones with 5.5 of the team's 32 sacks.

Ryan Harklau and Clyde Sanders will alternate at nose guard, with Kevin DeRonde and Robert Brannon replacing four-year starter Chin Achebe at end.

Jesse Beckom, the conference defensive newcomer of the year, was moved to the strong side linebacker in the spring to take advantage of his speed, which translated into 3.5 sacks among his 76 tackles. Dave Brcka, a member of McCarney's first recruiting class, has been a starter since his freshman year. He returns in the middle after an injury-plagued junior season. Ab Turner didn't miss a start after transferring from junior college. After the starters, however, the position is thin.

The secondary returns intact and has the most depth on the defense. Free safety Jeff Waters led the defense in tackles with 93, which speaks well for his ability but underscores the problems up front. Dustin Avey has size and two seasons' worth of starting experience at strong safety, where he's backed up by Doug Densmore. Breon Ansley and Jamarcus Powers return at the corners.

Punter Carl Gomez has two seasons remaining. Even though his average dropped slightly, the Cyclones improved markedly in punt coverage. Incoming freshman Rocco Rinaldi will join Mike McKnight and Steffen Nass in competition for the placekicking job. Moses, Groce and Ansley return to handle punts and kickoffs.

Depth Chart

OFFENSE (6)

SE	**86 Chris Anthony (Jr., 2)**	1 Michael Brantley (Sr., 3)
LT	**72 Bill Marsau (Sr., 3)**	55 Jared Bucksa (So., 0)
LG	**63 Ben Bruns (Jr., 2)**	56 Adam Sansale (So., 0)
C	**70 Ben Beaudet (Jr., 2)**	57 Josh Rank (Jr., 1)
RG	76 Ryan Gerke (Sr., 1)	77 Brian Donahue (So., 0)
RT	75 Marcel Howard (So., 1)	67 Cory Hannen (So., 1)
TE	80 Andy Stensrud (Jr., 2)	31 Mike Banks (So., 1)
QB	18 Sage Rosenfels (Jr., 2)	4 Derrick Walker (Jr., 0)
FB	43 Hez Jackson (Sr., 1)	33 Jerome Heavens (Jr., 1)
TB	**28 Darren Davis (Sr., 3)**	2 Ennis Haywood (So., 1)
FL	**3 Damien Groce (Sr., 1)**	32 J.J. Moses (Jr., 1)

DEFENSE (10)

DE	**15 Reggie Hayward (Jr., 2)**	36 James Elmore (Sr., 3)
DT	**52 James Reed (Jr., 2)**	98 Nigel Tharpe (Jr., 2)
NG	**44 Ryan Harklau (Jr., 2)**	95 Clyde Sanders (Sr., 1)
DE	99 Kevin DeRonde (So., 1)	91 Robert Brannon (Sr., 1)
LB	**41 Ab Turner (Jr., 1)**	34 Jim Morse (Jr., 2)
LB	**48 Dave Brcka (Sr., 3)**	49 Eric Weiford (Jr., 1)
LB	**38 Jesse Beckom (Sr., 1)**	5 Andrew Moser (So., 0)
CB	**8 Jamarcus Powers (Jr., 1)**	22 Ryan Sloth (Jr., 1)
CB	**27 Breon Ansley (Jr., 2)**	10 Javon Daniels (Sr., 1)
SS	**7 Dustin Avey (Jr., 2)**	24 Doug Densmore (Jr., 2)
FS	**17 Jeff Waters (Sr., 1)**	12 Jason Parrott (Sr., 1)

SPECIAL TEAMS

K	96 Mike McKnight (So., 0)	
P	6 Carl Gomez (Jr., 2)	
KR	32 J.J. Moses (Jr., 1)	
PR	3 Damien Groce (Sr., 1)	

(#) Indicates number of returning starters
***BOLD** indicates returning starters*
NUMBER after class indicates letters won

Head Coach: Dan McCarney — **1998 Record (Big 12): 3–8 (1–7)**
1999 Prediction: 6th Big 12 North — **Jack Trice Stadium (43,000)**

Washington State Cougars

79

Washington State will not, repeat, will not lose their final eight games this season like they did in 1998. They might not be as strong as the 1997 edition that won the Pac-10 title, but these Cougars could realistically challenge for a spot among the conference's upper half.

"We're hoping to improve our whole football team and get us back to the level where we think we belong," Washington State coach Mike Price says. "One of the spots we're looking to fill is the quarterback position."

Don Liebig

Lamont Thompson

12 The Cougars play the NCAA-specified maximum number of games, and are favorites to go 4–0 in non-conference games that include Utah, Idaho, USL and Hawaii.

The quarterback race is being billed as a three-way battle, with Steve Birnbaum and Paul Mencke the two familiar faces. The Cougars are still searching for a leader, or at least a consistent replacement, in Year Two of the post-Ryan Leaf era. Birnbaum started eight games and Mencke three, but both struggled last year. The player to watch is redshirt freshman Jason Gesser, who received equal snaps in spring practice with Birnbaum and Mencke, and will be given a fair shot to start. By the way, Leaf's cousin, quarterback Matt Kegel, will be a true freshman after gaining All-America honors in high school.

There won't be as much pressure on the quarterbacks as there was a season ago, because the Cougars have a better-than-average running game. Tailback Kevin Brown set a Cougars sophomore-record with 1,046 yards last season. And Brown won't have to be a one-man show, because unexpected help arrives in the form of freshman Deon Burnett, who is ready to play right now.

Nian Taylor returns and will be the Cougars' go-to receiver. There's also a pair of smurfs to call on in seniors Jerry Roquemore (5'11", 180) and Leaford Hackett (5'9", 174). But the real news here is the addition of some topflight receiving talent. Junior college transfers Milton Wynn (6'3") and Marcus Williams (6'5") will give the quarterback a pair of tall targets with good speed. A lot of eyes will be on freshman tight end Josh Shavies. He'll have to work his way around Corey Scott and Jason Littleton.

The Cougars have one of the biggest offensive lines in the conference, so the question surrounding them will be if they are athletic enough to protect a quarterback and open holes for Brown. Twins Ryan and Reed Raymond are not the quickest linemen, but know each other so well that they should make the right side of the line formidable. Left guard could be a problem, where Joe Criscione tries to fill a hole after starting just two games last year. The rock is Ryan Tujague, who started 10 games at left guard but is moving to the all-important left tackle spot.

After being a disaster area last season, the defensive line looks like a team strength today, with plenty of depth and talent. Jesse Ratcliff (weakside end) and Rob Meier (tackle) both have the benefit of 11 starts. Then there is true freshman Jeremey Williams, the jewel of the class and an immediate impact player. One reason the Cougars are optimistic about this unit is bulked up defensive end Mark Hedeen. The other tackle spot will be shared by Joey Hollenbeck and Ing Aleaga. Many expect freshman Isaac Brown to turn up somewhere along the line without needing a redshirt year.

Linebacker Steve Gleason may be small (5'11", 210), but he's good enough to have earned honorable mention all-conference recognition with 70 tackles last year. So did Brad Philley, who should give the Cougars solid if unspectacular play at strong-side linebacker. In the middle, there's a battle going on between Tupo Tuupo and redshirt freshman Fred Shavies. Another player vying for time at middle linebacker is James Price, who started 10 games last year and had 83 tackles but probably will fill a reserve role this season.

Three players who started 10 games or more are back in the secondary, led by free safety Lamont Thompson (71 tackles, four interceptions). Strong safety Earl Riley will also be back, as will cornerback Chris Martin. The trouble spot will be at the other corner, where LeJuan Gibbons will be given a chance to start. Another possibility is Dante Minners or freshman Marcus Trufant.

Kicker Rian Lindell (8-of-17 field goals) was inconsistent at times. Punter Kareem Anderson (40.5 yard avg.) also returns. Taylor has the speed to be one of the conference's top return men.

Depth Chart

OFFENSE (7)

WR	89	**Jerry Roquemore (Sr., 1)**	41	Farwan Zubedi (Jr., 2)
SB	81	**Leaford Hackett (Sr., 1)**	40	Jason White (So., 1)
LT	74	**Ryan Tujague (Sr., 1)**	69	Phillip Locker (Fr., 0)
LG	60	Joe Criscione (Sr., 1)	97	Derrick Roche (Fr., 0)
C	64	L.Walden-Schulz (Sr., 1)	52	Tyler Hunt (Fr., 0)
RG	73	Ryan Raymond (Jr., 1)	71	Mike Schwarz (Sr., 1)
RT	70	**Reed Raymond (Jr., 2)**	63	Jason Hughes (Fr., 0)
TE	84	Corey Scott (Sr., 2)	83	Jason Littleton (So., 1)
WR	82	**Nian Taylor (Sr., 3)**	80	Adam Davis (So., 1)
QB	13	**Steve Birnbaum (Sr., 3)**	12	Paul Mencke (Jr., 1)
TB	8	**Kevin Brown (Jr., 1)**		Deon Burnett (Fr., 0)

DEFENSE (9)

LE	67	**Jesse Ratcliff (Sr., 1)**	55	Eboni Wilson (Sr., 1)
LT	87	**Rob Meier (Sr., 3)**	68	Eric Boose (Fr., 0)
RT	92	Joey Hollenbeck (So., 1)	90	Ing Aleaga (So., 0)
RE	36	Mark Hedeen (So., 1)	51	**Austin Matson (Jr., 2)**
LB	34	**Steve Gleason (Sr., 3)**	44	Grady Emmerson (Sr., 3)
LB	43	Tupo Tuupo (So., 1)	50	Fred Shavies (Fr., 0)
LB	22	**Brad Philley (Jr., 2)**	54	**James Price (Jr., 2)**
LC	3	LeJuan Gibbons (Sr., 3)	5	Dante Minners (Jr., 0)
RC	25	**Chris Martin (Sr., 1)**	21	Anthony Matthews (So., 1)
SS	2	**Earl Riley (Sr., 1)**	29	Tory Hollimon (Sr., 3)
FS	19	**Lamont Thompson (Jr., 2)**	10	Billy Newman (So., 1)

SPECIAL TEAMS

K	27	Rian Lindell (Sr., 2)
P	9	Kareem Anderson (Sr., 1)
KR	82	Nian Taylor (Sr., 3)
PR	82	Nian Taylor (Sr., 3)

(#) Indicates number of returning starters
***BOLD** indicates returning starters*
NUMBER after class indicates letters won

Head Coach: Mike Price — **1998 Record (Pac-10): 3–8 (0–8)**
1999 Prediction: 10th Pac-10 — **Martin Stadium (37,600)**

Northwestern Wildcats

80

Just three years removed from back-to-back Big Ten Championships, the rose petals have fallen from the Northwestern program. The Wildcats went winless in the Big Ten last year for the first time since 1993, evoking memories of the dreadful "Mildcat" years. Coaching legend-gone-sour Gary Barnett departed for greener pastures at Colorado. But the hiring of Randy Walker from Miami (Ohio) brings a fresh face and an open mind to Northwestern, two attributes that will likely become virtues in the coming season.

Chuck Rydleski

Sam Simmons

28 The number of points opponents averaged last year against Northwestern. Walker's Miami (Ohio) squad ranked 16th in the nation in total defense and fourth in the nation in scoring defense, so expect that number to plummet.

The quarterback position crippled Northwestern's offense last year, and finding a consistent signal caller will be priority No. 1 this fall. Starter Gavin Hoffman returns, but by no means does he have the quarterback position locked up. There will be plenty of competition for Hoffman's spot. Nick Kreinbrink, who completed half his passes while appearing in eight games last season, was Hoffman's top competitor this spring. Sophomores David Farman and Steve Parker also got a look. Zak Kustok, who transferred from Notre Dame when the Irish offensive approach turned in a new direction, has three years of eligibility remaining. Walker won't name a favorite, but considering he locked up Kustok's transfer this winter, it is safe to say he is a leading candidate

The two youngsters who led the running game last year return with hopes of erasing the memories of their sophomore slump. Neither Damien Anderson or Brian Marshall was especially effective. Between them, they managed just 833 net yards and 3.2 yards per carry.

Instead, it was the rise of Sam Simmons that gained everyone's attention last season. Simmons played a variety of positions and excelled at them all as a '98 freshman. Walker needs one of those three to step up and take over the running game before Northwestern's offense will be effective in the Big Ten.

Not a single returning receiver averaged more than 27.3 receiving yards per game last season, a reality that could be the hardest for Walker to overcome. Aaron Burrell is the top returning wideout, but he made only seven catches all last year for fewer than 100 yards total. Simmons averaged 26 yards per catch, but he could be lining up in the backfield this season instead of at wide receiver. Talented Illinois native Jon Schweighardt could earn playing time in his freshman year. Tight end Jay Tant is the leading returning receiver with 30 receptions for 10.9 yards per catch.

Far too often last season, opposing defensive linemen found easy and clear access into Northwestern's backfield, but the offensive line returns all but one player with lots of playing experience to build on. Brian Hemmerle, who logged three starts at right guard and three at left guard while suffering through an injury-filled 1998, will be the anchor of a battle-tested unit this season. Tackles Blake Henry and Mike Souza and center Adam Fay also return to the lineup. With a more balanced attack, the offensive line won't have quite the burden it had last year.

Like their teammates on the other side, the defensive line returns four starters, including talented tackles Jeff Dyra and Darryl Hodge and ends Dwayne Missouri and Salem Simon. Walker built solid defenses at Miami (Ohio) and is likely to start here in his attempt to rebuild Northwestern.

Conrad Emmerich is the lone returning starter at linebacker. Napoleon Harris, Preston Letts (the top returning tackler), and sophomores Kevin Bentley and Billy Silva will all see plenty of playing time. Harris is a big-time playmaker and the leading candidate to fill Barry Gardner's shoes in the middle.

The secondary has long been a weakness at Northwestern as fans have routinely watched impressive pass-and-catch displays by the opposition. The Wildcats return only two starting defensive backs, strong safety Mycal Jones and cornerback Harold Blackmon. Shegun Cummings-John showed impressive athleticism in seven games last season.

The kicking game is suffering from the significant loss of Brian Gowins. Simmons, who finished eighth in the nation last year with a 27.6-yard kickoff return average, will again return kicks and possibly punts. Punter J.J. Standring returns after a subpar 1998.

Depth Chart

OFFENSE (7)

WR	18	Teddy Johnson (Jr., 1)	81	Rob Johnson (Jr., 1)
LT	**56**	**Mike Souza (Jr., 1)**	67	Leon Brockmeier (Jr., 1)
LG	64	Jon Walters (So., 0)	71	Jack Harnedy (Sr., 2)
C	**52**	**Adam Fay (Jr., 1)**	57	Ty Garner (Sr., 2)
RG	**70**	**Brian Hemmerle (Sr., 2)**	77	Lance Clelland (Jr., 1)
RT	**53**	**Blake Henry (So., 1)**	65	Ryan Friedrich (Sr., 2)
TE	**84**	**Jay Tant (Sr., 3)**	89	John Cerasani (Sr., 0)
QB	**14**	**Gavin Hoffman (Jr., 1)**	13	Nick Kreinbrink (Jr., 0)
FB	3	Ian Miller (Sr., 1)	48	Chris Stiernagle (So., 0)
TB	**20**	**Damien Anderson (Jr., 1)**	32	Sam Simmons (So., 1)
WR	7	Aaron Burrell (Sr., 2)	85	Phil Miller (Sr., 1)

DEFENSE (7)

LE	**95**	**Dwayne Missouri (Sr., 1)**	93	Pete Konopka (Jr., 1)
LT	**78**	**Darryl Hodge (Sr., 2)**	92	Javiar Collins (Sr., 1)
RT	**99**	**Jeff Dyra (Sr., 2)**	97	Gladston Taylor (Sr., 0)
RE	**94**	**Salem Simon (Jr., 1)**	96	Andrew Wimsatt (So., 0)
LB	43	Preston Letts (Sr., 2)	2	Kevin Bentley (So., 1)
LB	**47**	**Conrad Emmerich (Sr., 2)**	51	Chris Jones (So., 0)
LB	8	Napoleon Harris (Jr., 1)	44	Billy Silva (So., 1)
CB	**6**	**Harold Blackmon (Sr., 2)**	33	Chasda Martin (So., 0)
CB	1	Shegun Cummings-John (Jr.,1)	11	Gerald Conoway (Sr., 3)
SS	**4**	**Mycal Jones (Jr., 2)**	25	Marvin Brown (Jr., 0)
FS	24	Rashad Morton (Sr., 2)	31	Kyle Sanders (Sr., 3)

SPECIAL TEAMS

K	39	Tim Long (Sr., 0)
P	42	J.J. Standring (Jr., 1)
KR	32	Sam Simmons (So., 1)
PR	7	Aaron Burrell (Sr., 2)

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***BOLD** indicates returning starters*
NUMBER after class indicates letters won

Head Coach: Randy Walker **1998 Record (Big 10): 3–9 (0–8)**
1999 Prediction: 11th Big 10 **Ryan Field (47,129)**

Wake Forest Demon Deacons

81

Wake Forest coach Jim Caldwell has acquired the nickname "Smilin' Jim" for remaining upbeat despite a 17–49 record in his six years in Winston-Salem. There have been no winning seasons at the school since 1992, the longest streak in the Atlantic Coast Conference, and none under Caldwell, a former Penn State assistant.

John Betancourt

Fred Robbins

The Demon Deacons were expected to follow up their 5–6 record of 1997 with a possible Top 25 year, but a host of key defensive injuries and a 42–0 loss to Air Force in the season opener soon squashed thoughts of an upper-division ACC finish.

31–69 That's the Wake Forest record in the decade of the '90s. The Deacons won 46 games in the 1980s. And it seems like Wake is stuck on 3–8, having produced five such seasons in the last nine years.

The nation's worst ground attack and a defense that allowed an average of 40 points over a five-game skid to end the season left a poor taste in Caldwell's mouth. But he didn't sit still. He will take over most of the game-day play-calling for the first time, and he signed touted freshman quarterback C.J. Leak, who many thought was headed to Notre Dame.

Whether senior Ben Sankey or Leak wins out at quarterback, the Deacons will have a fresh look. Four-year starter Brian Kuklick is gone after finishing as the fourth-best passer in ACC history, but with no winning records to show for it.

While the passing attack looks fine, the running game needs help. After making a few strides on the ground two seasons ago, the Deacons took another step backward, averaging an ACC-low 65.4 yards a game.

The top two rushers, Morgan Kane and Kito Gary, combined for only 648 yards and five TDs. Kane has been switched to fullback in an effort to add more speed to the backfield, while Gary is penciled in as the starter at tailback.

Wake Forest ran the ball 38 percent of the time last year. That's not enough for Caldwell, who plans to employ more two-back sets to get that figure up to 45 percent.

On a positive note, seven of the top eight receivers return in Caldwell's pass-first, run-second offense. Jammie Deese, Marvin Chalmers and Ira Williams will allow the Deacons to go deep often. Deese is expected to star after finishing second in the ACC last year with 68 catches.

Three-year starter Joe Zelenka will be missed at tight end, but James Lik is expected to fill in nicely.

Wake Forest's offensive front is a big, veteran group. Four returning starters and 302-pound center Vince Azzolina worked almost exclusively on run-blocking in the spring. Guards Sam Settar and Brian Wolverton both played all 786 offensive snaps a season ago. Marlon Curtis, the team's top lineman, will likely be switched from center to tackle to replace the graduated Jeff Flowe. Sophomore Michael Collins should line up at the other tackle slot.

Former linebackers Bryan Ray and Mat Petz adjusted well to their position change as speedy defensive ends, but both went through a learning curve against the run. Petz topped the team with 15 tackles for loss and six sacks. Senior starter Fred Robbins returns in the middle of the line, while Da'Vaughn Mellerson, Clinton Wilburn and Nathan Bolling vie for the other starting tackle spot.

The linebacking corps was decimated at mid-season with the injury losses of all-stars Kelvin Moses and Dustin Lyman.

Lyman had 62 tackles in five games before tearing an ACL, while Moses got in only 12 plays and was granted a sixth year of eligibility by the NCAA. Both missed spring ball, but Caldwell expects them back.

Abdul Guice filled in for Moses and finished tied for second on the team with 71 tackles, but the senior is undersized. Mark DeOrio heads into the fall at "The Demon" linebacker spot.

DaLawn Parrish was moved around a lot in the secondary a season ago, but led the Deacons in tackles with 75. Parrish will return to free safety and join fellow seniors Reggie Austin and David Moore in the defensive backfield. Transfer Chris Justice will line up opposite Austin at cornerback.

Senior kicker Matthew Burdick returns after hitting 13-of-18 field goals. Redshirt freshman Matt Brennie is set to inherit the punting chores. Deese and Austin bring stability to the return game.

Depth Chart

OFFENSE (6)

WR	17	Marvin Chalmers (Sr., 1)	80	William Merritt (Sr., 2)
LT	**78**	**Marlon Curtis (Jr., 1)**	62	Willie Lam (Sr., 2)
LG	**76**	**Brian Wolverton (Sr., 3)**	68	Chris Blank (Jr., 2)
C	53	Vince Azzolina (So., 1)	65	Tim Bennett (Fr., 0)
RG	**60**	**Sam Settar (Sr., 3)**	75	Michael Moosbrugger (So., 0)
RT	**79**	**Michael Collins (So., 1)**	71	Alaric Thieshen (Jr., 1)
TE	39	James Lik (Sr., 3)	82	Ben Stafford (Sr., 3)
QB	13	Ben Sankey (Sr., 3)		C.J. Leak (Fr., 0)
FB	**22**	**Morgan Kane (Sr., 3)**	32	Ovie Mughelli (Fr., 0)
RB	8	Kito Gary (Sr., 2)	1	Chris McCoy (Jr., 1)
WR	**21**	**Jammie Deese (Sr., 3)**	81	Ira Williams (So., 1)

DEFENSE (6)

DE	**45**	**Bryan Ray (Jr., 2)**	56	Rufus Taylor (Sr., 2)
DT	**90**	**Fred Robbins (Sr., 3)**	70	Clinton Wilburn (Sr., 3)
DT	96	Da'Vaughn Mellerson (Jr., 2)	99	Nathan Bolling (So., 1)
DE	**41**	**Mat Petz (Jr., 2)**	54	Kelvin Jones (Sr., 3)
LB	20	Mark DeOrio (So., 1)	97	Roderick Stephen (Fr., 0)
LB	49	Kelvin Moses (Sr., 3)	**34**	**Abdul Guice (Sr., 3)**
LB	43	Dustin Lyman (Sr., 3)	52	Marquis Hopkins (So., 1)
CB	30	Chris Justice (So., 0)	26	Elliott Ivey (Fr., 0)
CB	**9**	**Reggie Austin (Sr., 3)**	36	Keyshorn Smith (Jr., 2)
SS	28	David Moore (Sr., 3)	23	Michael Clinkscale (So., 1)
FS	**5**	**DaLawn Parrish (Sr., 3)**	25	Tehran Carpenter (So., 1)

SPECIAL TEAMS

K	4	Matthew Burdick (Sr., 3)
P	37	Matt Brennie (Fr., 0)
KR	21	Jammie Deese (Sr., 3)
PR	9	Reggie Austin (Sr., 3)

(#) Indicates number of returning starters
***BOLD** indicates returning starters*
NUMBER after class indicates letters won

Head Coach: Jim Caldwell
1998 Record (ACC): 3–8 (2–6)
1999 Prediction: 8th ACC
Groves Stadium (31,500)

Bowling Green Falcons

82

Bowling Green found a running game midway through last season and salvaged what could have been an abysmal year. After a 1–5 start, the Falcons won four of their last five, including a 34–13 thrashing of Marshall, the MAC and Motor City Bowl champions. Bowling Green went from 107th in Division I in rushing to 13th (215.2 yards per game, third in the MAC).

Bowling Green SID

Chad McCarthy

It wasn't enough to prevent Bowling Green's fourth straight losing campaign, but they did post a winning record in conference (5–3) for the first time since 1994.

Falcons coach Gary Blackney is counting on a fast start to get his team back at the level they were at the start of the decade, when they went to back-to-back bowl games.

17–27 Bowling Green coach Gary Blackney's record since 1995, during which the Falcons haven't placed higher than third in the leage. Blackney was 36–8–2 in his first four seasons at the school.

"If we can somehow find a way to have early success in our schedule, then I think we have a chance to be very competitive in the Eastern Division of the MAC," Blackney says. "We have some early challenges we have to meet if we are going to have the kind of success in our program that we hope to have."

Six starters and 15 letterwinners return on offense, where the only questionable hole could be at quarterback. Junior Ricky Schneider is expected to step in with the departure of three-year starter Bob Niemet. Schneider started twice in 1997 and appeared in eight games as a backup last year. He completed 53. 4 percent of his passes for 649 yards, four TDs and four interceptions. Redshirt freshman Andy Sahm is the likely backup.

The Falcons found a nice tandem at tailback last year and both are back. Sophomore Godfey Lewis handled the bulk of the load, finishing with 753 yards on 163 carries (4.6 average). Senior Steve Holmes ran for 384 yards on 79 carries (4.9 yards per carry) and three scores in nine games. Senior co-captain Brent Martin is the Falcons' spiritual engine at fullback, rushing for 295 yards last year.

The Falcons will miss two-time all-conference tight end Tony Holcomb, but senior Kevin Steinke made eight starts last year and has played in 33 games the last three years.

Schneider has plenty of receiving talent back to work with. Kurt Gerling was MAC Freshman of the Year last year with 656 yards on 34 receptions (a 19.3 average) and six TDs. Robert Redd, a sophomore, mans the other receiver slot after 17 catches for 317 yards.

The big stars of last season were the much-improved members of the offensive line, which returns intact. Right tackle Chad McCarthy has started 32 games; senior guard Mark Kautzman and junior tackle Rob Fehrman have started 22 straight. The five projected starters have 104 starts between them.

The defensive front line is the biggest concern for Blackney. D.J. Durkin is the only returning starter at one defensive end, while D.J. Owchar has the inside track at the other end slot. The interior line positions were hotly contested in the spring with Malcolm Robinson and Brandon Hicks holding the slight edge at tackle and nose guard, respectively. Robinson has spent most of his career as an offensive lineman but is making a solid transition.

Bowling Green is stacked pretty well in the middle with Joe O'Neill (95 tackles) at outside linebacker; sophomore Chris Della Vella (45 stops) in the middle; and sophomores Garry Fisher, Khary Campbell and senior Eric Jones pushing playing time.

In the secondary, Ken Dobbs, a former wide receiver who played corner for the first time last year, had six starts. Another offensive convert, former tailback Chris Hubbard, will also be tried there. Former wideouts Will Sullivan and Matt Bunsey are expected to have the inside track as the other corner. Sullivan had eight catches in eight games as a wide receiver last year.

Strong safety Chad Long is going to have to be a steadying influence until the new players get a grip on their positions. Long was second on the team with 93 tackles as a freshman last year.

Karl Rose moved into the free safety slot midway through the 1998 season and finished with 60 tackles, 12 against Miami.

Senior placekicker Jason Strasser is back. The punting duties will be turned over to redshirt freshman Brian Poltrone. Holmes and Redd will again return kicks.

Depth Chart

OFFENSE (6)

SE	4	**Kurt Gerling (So., 1)**	
LT	79	**Rob Fehrman (Jr., 2)**	78 Dennis Wendel (Fr., 0)
LG	73	**Mark Kautzman (Sr., 3)**	72 Jon Mazur (Fr., 0)
C	60	**Doug Dorley (Sr., 1)**	76 Matt Tyla (Jr., 0)
RG	63	**Eric Curl (Jr., 2)**	66 Greg Kupke (Fr., 0)
RT	62	**Chad McCarthy (Sr., 3)**	77 Eric Gilbo (Jr., 0)
TE	87	Kevin Steinke (Sr., 3)	Jason Dailey (So., 0)
QB	1	Ricky Schneider (Jr., 2)	15 Andy Sahm (Fr., 0)
FB	43	Brent Martin (Sr., 2)	40 Eric Clark (So., 0)
TB	23	Godfrey Lewis (So., 1)	36 Steve Holmes (Sr., 1)
FL	5	Robert Redd (So., 1)	80 Aaron Alexander (So., 1)

DEFENSE (6)

DE	44	**D.J. Durkin (Jr., 2)**	51 Larry Witherspoon (Fr., 0)
DT	97	Malcolm Robinson (So., 0)	58 Rodney Dawson (Jr., 0)
DT	92	Brandon Hicks (Jr., 1)	47 Dan Jere (Fr., 0)
DE	59	D.J. Owchar (Fr., 0)	90 Ryan Wingrove (So., 0)
LB	28	**Khary Campbell (So., 1)**	54 Eric Jones (Sr., 0)
LB	49	Chris Della Vella (So., 1)	50 Chris Haneline (Fr., 0)
LB	32	**Joe O'Neill (Sr., 3)**	**10 Garry Fisher (So., 1)**
CB	15	**Ken Dobbs (Jr., 1)**	Chris Hubbard (So., 1)
CB	85	Will Sullivan (Jr., 1)	18 Matt Bunsey (Jr., 1)
SS	26	**Chad Long (So., 1)**	
FS	6	Karl Rose (So., 1)	30 Sergio Lund (So., 1)

SPECIAL TEAMS

K	11	Jason Strasser (Sr., 3)
P		Brian Poltrone (Fr., 0)
KR	36	Steve Holmes (Sr., 1)
PR	5	Robert Redd (So., 1)

(#) Indicates number of returning starters
***BOLD** indicates returning starters*
NUMBER after class indicates letters won

Head Coach: Gary Blackney | **1998 Record (MAC): 5–6 (5–3)**
1999 Prediction: 3rd MAC East | **Doyt L. Perry Stadium (30,599)**

Colorado State Rams

83

After playing 12 consecutive weeks, the Colorado State Rams left themselves wanting more.

Even though they ended their season by crushing SMU to finish with a respectable 8–4 record, no bowl invitation was forthcoming, meaning that the Rams' season ended Nov. 14.

John Hudetz

Kevin McDougal

That abrupt end to the season made for a much longer winter than usual — and a team that coach Sonny Lubick describes as "hungrier" in 1999.

26 Defensive end Clark Haggans enters his senior season with 26 sacks, two short of the school career record.

The Rams will try to get back to postseason play with a new quarterback for the second straight season, but the Rams have the makings of another solid, aggressive team in the Lubick tradition, if the offensive line can come together.

Junior Matt Newton has the edge in CSU's quarterback derby after backing up Ryan Eslinger last season and leading the Rams to a 38–16 victory over UNLV when Eslinger was injured. Redshirt freshman Steve Cutlip is a playmaker with all the ingredients to become an outstanding quarterback, but just when that will happen is difficult to predict.

Running back Kevin McDougal's production dropped from 1,111 yards to 547 in his junior season, thanks mostly to injuries that kept him out of four games. It's critical for the Rams that McDougal stay healthy for the whole campaign.

The Rams lost their top two receivers, but junior Frank Rice caught three touchdown passes before a knee injury in the fifth game sidelined him for the season. Junior Dallas Davis was third on the team with 39 receptions, and sophomore Pete Rebstock added 27.

CSU loves to use two and three tight ends and has enough players to keep doing that, even after losing star Derrek Uhl. Sophomore Jose Ochoa keeps improving and is the probable starter at tight end, with junior college transfer Cory Woolstenhulme and senior Leon Smith playing as H-backs.

The line is CSU's biggest concern. Senior Blane Saipaia was a two-year starter at weak tackle, but moved to center. If that experiment holds, redshirt freshman Morgan Pears or sophomore Broderick Lancaster will play tackle — unless Lancaster settles at strong guard. The two strongest possibilities are junior Tim Stuber at strong tackle and junior Justin Borvansky at weak guard.

In defensive coordinator Larry Kerr's scheme, the ends are Colorado State's high-impact players. The Rams have to replace Joey Porter on the left side, but senior Clark Haggans returns after accounting for 11 of the end tandem's 26 sacks last year.

The search is on at left end, with junior Mike Mackenzie and converted linebacker Chad McGuckin among the contenders. Left tackle also is somewhat unsettled, but that's not necessarily a problem. Casey Wolf is a returning starter. His backup, senior Rob Cieslinski, has had to play through injuries, limiting him to three games last year.

At right tackle, senior Greg Pollard has improved every year, and junior Jamie Bennett is dependable.

Senior strong linebacker Rick Crowell, a genuine pro prospect who can run and hit, heads this group. He had 11 tackles for loss. CSU loses 48-game starter Willie Taylor in the middle, but senior Ula Tuitele ranked among the team's top 10 tacklers.

Weak linebacker is another story. Nate Kvamme kept everybody else off the field with his strong play. Without him, CSU will turn to sophomore Tony Colacion, who played minimally. Depth is a concern; the backups at linebacker are all untested.

Just as in the other defensive areas, one spot in the secondary is a huge question. That's at one corner, where sophomore Thal Woods or junior Andy Engelstad needs to step forward. At the other corner, junior Terrence Gibson is a reliable player.

Senior Erik Olson will lead the secondary at strong safety, with Aaron Sprague, the only true freshman to play for the Ram defense last year, moving in at free safety. John Howell, who missed the season with an injury, will compete with Sprague.

Senior Deone Horinek returns as one of the country's best punters after averaging 44.8 yards. Junior C.W. Hurst is one of the few high school kickers ever to receive a scholarship from Lubick. Davis averaged 27 yards for 121 kickoff returns and will handle punts.

Depth Chart

OFFENSE (4)

WR	27	Dallas Davis (Jr., 2)	13	Jon Ueland (Sr., 1)
LT	68	Broderick Lancaster (So., 1)	62	Aaron Brown (Fr., 0)
LG	**79**	**Justin Borvansky (Jr., 1)**	69	Morgan Pears (Fr., 0)
C	**61**	**Blane Saipaia (Sr., 3)**	77	Jason Koontz (Fr., 0)
RG	60	David Shohet (So., 1)	73	Broc Finlayson (So., 0)
RT	**63**	**Tim Stuber (Jr., 2)**	78	Chris Gensel (Fr., 0)
TE	88	Jose Ochoa (So., 1)	80	Nick Schaumburg (Jr., 2)
QB	15	Matt Newton (Jr., 2)	7	Steve Cutlip (Fr., 0)
FB	36	Kevin McDougal (Sr., 3)	1	Duan Ruff (So., 1)
HB	17	Leon Smith (Sr., 1)	86	Cory Woolstenhulme (Jr., 0)
WR	**4**	**Pete Rebstock (So., 1)**	25	Frank Rice (Jr., 2)

DEFENSE (6)

DE	76	Mike Mackenzie (Jr., 1)	46	Peter Hogan (Fr., 0)
DT	**52**	**Casey Wolf (Jr., 2)**	95	Rob Cieslinski (Sr., 3)
DT	**90**	**Greg Pollard (Sr., 3)**	54	Jamie Bennett (Jr., 2)
DE	**96**	**Clark Haggans (Sr., 3)**	43	Chad McGuckin (So., 1)
LB	8	Tony Colacion (So., 1)	34	Doug Heald (Fr., 0)
LB	42	Ula Tuitele (Sr., 3)	47	Josh Steward (Fr., 0)
LB	**6**	**Rick Crowell (Sr., 3)**	56	Rocky Martin (Fr., 0)
CB	30	Andy Engelstad (Jr., 2)	31	Ameer Lowe (Jr., 1)
CB	**2**	**Terrence Gibson (Jr., 2)**	7	Thal Woods (So., 1)
SS	**28**	**Erik Olson (Sr., 3)**	3	Aaron Day (Fr., 0)
FS	29	Aaron Sprague (So., 1)	38	John Howell (Jr., 2)

SPECIAL TEAMS

K	19	C.W. Hurst (Jr., 2)
P	10	Deone Horinek (Sr., 1)
KR	27	Dallas Davis (Jr., 2)
PR	27	Dallas Davis (Jr., 2)

(#) Indicates number of returning starters
***BOLD** indicates returning starters*
NUMBER after class indicates letters won

Head Coach: Sonny Lubick — **1998 Record (WAC): 8–4 (5–3)**
1999 Prediction: 6th MWC — **Hughes Stadium (30,000)**

Memphis Tigers

84

Rip Scherer, who studied under the likes of Lou Holtz and Joe Paterno, came to Memphis in 1995 after turning around a floundering program at James Madison. Though Scherer has yet to post a winning record in four years with the Tigers, he is determined to build the program from the foundation up.

Dwight King

Gerard Arnold

Scherer and his restructured staff welcome back 15 starters plus both kickers for 1999. In addition, a yearly pipeline of redshirt freshmen is beginning to open up, with a substantial contingent slated for duty in '99.

Says Scherer: "By design, we haven't tried to seek a quick fix with jucos. We're trying to make it a high school recruit-based program, and last year's recruiting class was our best so far. At the very least, they'll give us depth we haven't had."

16 . . . and counting. The number of consecutive field goals made by Memphis kicker Ryan White.

The Tigers have an established starter at quarterback for the first time since Scherer's arrival. Neil Suber started the final four games of '98 and put up the team's best passing numbers, securing himself the starting assignment this year. Suber's insertion into the lineup coincided with a late-season offensive surge by the Tigers, who had been struggling up to that point. Stephen Galbraith is listed as Suber's backup. Redshirt freshman Travis Anglin adds mobility to the quarterback position, though his passing skills are unproven. Scherer is scheming ways to get the ball in Anglin's hands. "We've got to utilize his athleticism, at quarterback or elsewhere. He needs to be on the field somewhere, somehow."

The one-two tailback punch of Gerard Arnold and Teofilo Riley returns for an encore. Arnold set a school record with 1,059 rushing yards in 1998 and needs 965 yards as a senior to become the all-time leading rusher in Memphis history. Riley added 485 yards on the ground in '98. Four different fullbacks started games for the Tigers in '98, and two of them, seniors Brandon Tucker and Jeremy Scruggs, return.

Senior flanker Damien Dodson averaged 18 yards on 42 receptions in '98 and had touchdown grabs of 92 yards against Houston and 82 yards against East Carolina. With just nine more catches, Dodson becomes Memphis' all-time leading receiver.

Al Sermon is penciled in at split end, and tight end Billy Kendall returns after a 19-catch, two-TD season.

Three starters return in the offensive line, including a pair of 1998 C-USA All-Freshman selections, tackle David Sherrod and guard Artis Hicks. Tim Seymour, the team's best blocker, returns for his senior year at the other guard post. Junior DeCorye Hampton and sophomore Jason Austin take over at tackle and center, respectively.

Andre Arnold made C-USA All-Freshman and is now entrenched at left defensive end. Tramont Lawless and Calvin Lewis return to their posts at end and tackle, respectively. Junior Marcus Bell, a 295-pound run stuffer who has drawn regular duty off the bench, moves into the lineup at tackle. Freshman end Stanley Jackson could perk up the pass rush.

Junior Kamal Shakir, a quick, tenacious 230-pounder with a nose for the ball, paced the 1998 unit in tackles with 87, including four for losses, and broke up five passes from his middle linebacker position. Caspor Stiles and DeMorrio Shank both return at outside linebacker. Stiles notched a team-high five tackles for loss with Shank contributing two sacks, two pass breakups and a pair of fumble recoveries.

With a last-place conference finish in pass defense and All-C-USA cornerback Mike McKenzie departing for the pros a year early, the secondary demands immediate attention. Junior Fred Powell should grab one corner assignment, with either Anthony Harden, Reginald Howard (a starter last year) or Michael Stone in the other. Idrees Bashir, one of the conference's top freshman DBs a year ago, is a force at free safety. Glenn Sumter moves up at strong safety after picking off a pair of passes in a backup role last season.

Sophomore placekicker Ryan White, the C-USA Special Teams Player of the Year, connected on 16-of-16 field goal attempts and 22-of-22 PATs, making him the only perfect placekicker in the nation in 1998. Ben Graves and Jim Cande both return after averaging 38.8 and 41.6 yards per punt, respectively, while sharing the job in '98. Dodson is a dangerous return man.

Depth Chart

OFFENSE (8)

SE	13 Al Sermon (Jr., 1)	25 Chance Nesbitt (Fr., 0)
LT	75 DeCorye Hampton (Jr., 0)	78 Baki Celaj (Fr., 0)
LG	**65 Artis Hicks (So., 1)**	76 Lou Esposito (Sr., 2)
C	51 Jason Austin (So., 0)	67 Matt Gehrke (Fr., 0)
RG	**62 Tim Seymour (Sr., 1)**	63 Josh Eargle (So., 0)
RT	**71 David Sherrod (So., 1)**	79 Tavares Middlebrooks (Sr., 3)
TE	**88 Billy Kendall (Jr., 2)**	86 Jeff Cameron (Fr., 0)
QB	**14 Neil Suber (So., 1)**	19 Stephen Galbraith (Jr., 2)
FB	**36 Jeremy Scruggs (Sr., 2)**	46 Brandon Tucker (Sr., 2)
RB	**31 Gerard Arnold (Sr., 2)**	35 Teofilo Riley (Sr., 3)
FL	**9 Damien Dodson (Sr., 3)**	1 Ken Coutain (Sr., 1)

DEFENSE (7)

LE	94 Andre Arnold (So., 1)	97 Tony Brown (So., 0)
LT	**70 Calvin Lewis (Jr., 2)**	72 Jarvis Slaton (Jr., 1)
RT	54 Marcus Bell (Jr., 2)	58 Tommy Vollmar (Jr., 0)
RE	**50 Tramont Lawless (Sr., 2)**	Stanley Jackson (Fr., 0)
LB	**7 Caspor Stiles (Sr., 3)**	52 Michael Boatman (Sr., 1)
LB	**48 Kamal Shakir (Jr., 2)**	53 Corey Irby (Sr., 1)
LB	**45 DeMorrio Shank (Jr., 2)**	12 Ian Williams (Jr., 2)
LC	23 Fred Powell (Jr., 2)	**41 Reginald Howard (Sr., 1)**
RC	44 Michael Stone (Jr., 1)	38 Anthony Harden (So., 0)
SS	42 Glenn Sumter (So., 1)	18 Kosha Irby (Jr., 2)
FS	**28 Idrees Bashir (So., 1)**	47 Keydrin Ward (So., 1)

SPECIAL TEAMS

K	82 Ryan White (So., 1)
P	89 Jim Cande (Sr., 2)
KR	9 Damien Dodson (Sr., 3)
PR	9 Damien Dodson (Sr., 3)

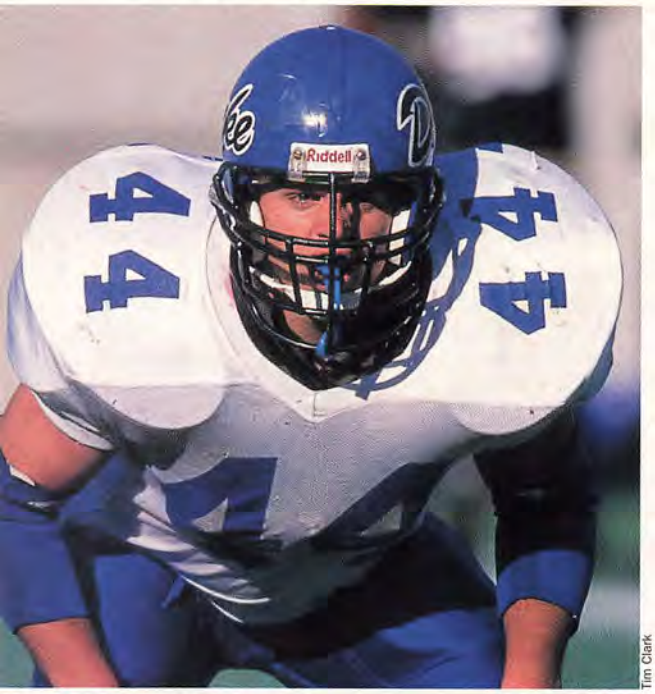
(#) Indicates number of returning starters
***BOLD** indicates returning starters*
NUMBER after class indicates letters won

Head Coach: Rip Scherer **1998 Record (C-USA): 2-9 (1-5)**
1999 Prediction: 6th C-USA **Liberty Bowl (62,380)**

Duke Blue Devils

85

Carl Franks has two qualities Duke fans were looking for when Fred Goldsmith was fired after going 9–35 over the last four seasons. The new head coach is a former Duke player and he's connected to Steve Spurrier, the most popular coach for the Blue Devils since Wallace Wade went 110–36–7 in the '30s and '40s.



Tim Clark

Ryan Stallmeyer

Franks, a former assistant to Spurrier at Florida, does lack one thing: head coaching experience. That shouldn't be a problem, though, for the former Duke tight end, according to his former boss.

20 Including kickers, Duke has 20 starters returning this year, tops in the ACC. That's two more than Florida State has back this year.

"If there is one thing he loves in this world other than his family it's the chance to compete," Spurrier says of Franks. "It's in his blood. He's smart and he's tough. I think he'll do fine. He's ready."

Franks makes no bones about opening up Duke's offensive attack, which at times under Goldsmith was deemed boring and too run-oriented to suit the team's needs or talents.

Juniors Spencer Romine and Bobby Campbell will vie for the starting QB job, but both had problems at times last year. Campbell, in fact, threw an ACC-record seven interceptions in a 42–25 home loss against Maryland that dropped the Blue Devils from the postseason picture. The pair combined for only nine TD passes, good for eighth in the ACC. Still, Franks said he's comfortable turning the ball over to either one.

B.J. Hill came to Duke as a defensive back but was sent to the backfield when the injury bug hit. It looks like the sophomore won't be returning to defensive side of the ball anytime soon. His 798 yards rushing were the 12th-best single-season mark by a freshman in ACC history.

Junior Devin Pierce is in the mix at fullback.

With receivers like Torry Holt and Peter Warrick in the ACC the last two years, it has been easy to overlook senior Scottie Montgomery and junior Richmond Flowers. However, the pair finished 4-5 in the league in receiving and gives Duke arguably the best wideout combination in the ACC. Montgomery caught 60 balls for 793 yards, including a 243-yard day against Vanderbilt, while Flowers had 48 catches for 704.

Duke is also set at Franks' old position, tight end. Senior Terrence Dupree is a bruising 250-pounder who is a good blocker and tough to bring down, while 6'6" sophomore Mike Hart is the better receiver.

The Blue Devils have the smallest offensive line in the ACC. Unlike most teams in the ACC, Duke won't start a lineman who weighs 300 pounds or more. The biggest of the Blue Devils is 285-pound junior tackle Wes White.

Senior Austin Smithwick at right tackle is the team's most talented player up front and is a team captain. He missed most of the spring with a shoulder injury, but Franks says the 265-pounder has the experience and leadership to be more than solid along the line. The center spot belongs to junior Troy Andrew, while junior Robert Fleming will play left guard and sophomore Shawn Lynch will be opposite Fleming.

The defensive line is the team's strong suit with three seniors heading up the front of a 3–4 defense. All-ACC senior end Chris Combs has 18 career sacks and 42.5 tackles for loss.

Gannon Shepherd adds great size at the other end position at 6'8", 270, while Mike Steinbaugh will play nose guard. Junior Nate Krill, another 6'8" player, can also move up from his linebacker position if the Blue Devils decide to play a 4–3 defense.

Joining Krill at linebacker will be three out of the top four returning tacklers from last year's Duke squad. Senior Ryan Stallmeyer had 85 tackles a year ago, while sophomore Todd DeLamielleure is the biggest hitter and chipped in with 75 tackles. Outside linebacker Kevin Lewis will be hooked up in a battle for starting duties with fellow senior Brian McCormack.

Three seniors are back in the Duke secondary, but this unit must improve for Duke to make any headway defensively. The Blue Devils picked off only eight passes last year, good for eighth in the ACC. Lamar Grant will play one corner, while sophomore Ronnie Hamilton gets the nod at the other. Darius Clark and Eric Jones will head up the safety positions.

Sims Lenhardt returns as the kicker. Brian Morton will punt. Montgomery and Flowers are dangerous return men.

Depth Chart

OFFENSE (9)

SE	2	**Scottie Montgomery (Sr., 3)**	85	Kyle Moore (So., 1)
LT	76	**Wes White (Jr., 1)**	53	Wally Niemcow (Jr., 2)
LG	63	Robert Fleming (Jr., 2)	60	Mike Alberto (Jr., 2)
C	71	**Troy Andrew (Jr., 2)**	78	Kevin Schmidt (Jr., 2)
RG	79	**Shawn Lynch (So., 1)**	77	John Miller (So., 1)
RT	56	**Austin Smithwick (Sr., 3)**	72	Greg Dufala (Fr., 0)
TE	89	**Terrence Dupree (Sr., 3)**	81	Mike Hart (So., 1)
QB	14	**Spencer Romine (Jr., 2)**	15	Bobby Campbell (Jr., 2)
FB	30	Devin Pierce (Jr., 2)	36	Clayton Kennedy (Fr., 0)
TB	32	**B.J. Hill (So., 1)**	21	Letavious Wilks (Sr., 3)
FL	22	**Richmond Flowers (Jr., 2)**	9	Ben Erdeljac (So., 0)

DEFENSE (9)

DE	93	**Chris Combs (Sr., 3)**	90	Troy Austin (Jr., 2)
NG	94	Mike Steinbaugh (Sr., 3)	92	Noah Wilson (Fr., 0)
DE	98	**Gannon Shepherd (Sr., 3)**	52	Charles Porter (So., 1)
LB	83	Nate Krill (Jr., 2)	58	Kendral Knight (Jr., 2)
LB	45	**Todd DeLamielleure (So., 1)**	41	Levar Johnson (So., 1)
LB	44	**Ryan Stallmeyer (Sr., 3)**	51	Randy Ament (Jr., 2)
LB	27	**Kevin Lewis (Sr., 3)**	99	Brian McCormack (Sr., 3)
CB	37	**Lamar Grant (Sr., 3)**	26	Quentin Holley (So., 0)
CB	11	**Ronnie Hamilton (So., 1)**	31	Derrick Lee (Fr., 0)
SS	13	**Darius Clark (Sr., 3)**	25	Luke Roush (Jr., 2)
FS	23	**Eric Jones (Sr., 3)**	38	Josh Kreider (Fr., 0)

SPECIAL TEAMS

K	12	Sims Lenhardt (Sr., 3)
P	17	Brian Morton (Jr., 2)
KR	22	Richmond Flowers (Jr., 2)
PR	22	Richmond Flowers (Jr., 2)

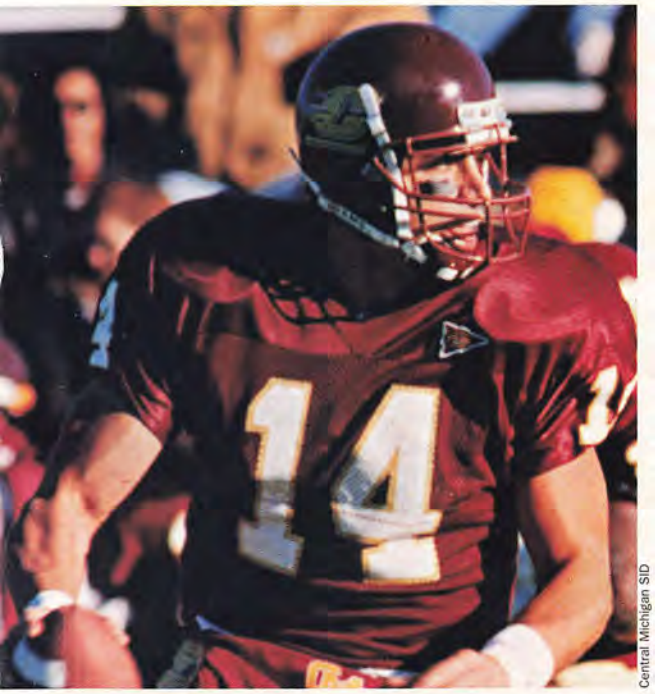
(#) Indicates number of returning starters
***BOLD** indicates returning starters*
NUMBER after class indicates letters won

Head Coach: Carl Franks | **1998 Record (ACC): 4–7 (2–6)**
1999 Prediction: 9th ACC | **Wallace Wade Stadium (33,941)**

Central Michigan Chippewas

86

The Chippewas picked up steam as the season went on last year, a trend coach Dick Flynn would like to see carry over into 1999. Central Michigan contended for the MAC West title by winning four of its last seven. A 17–14 loss at Toledo on Nov. 14 knocked CMU out of the race, but the Chippewas still finished with their first winning season in five years. CMU had gone 2–9 and 1–7 in 1997.



Central Michigan SID

Pete Shepherd

"We want to continue the momentum and progress we made during 1998," Flynn says. "We lost a lot of good football players."

Some new faces are going to have to emerge if CMU is to capitalize on anything. The Chippewas lost 21 lettermen and nine starters, the most pivotal being at wide receiver, inside linebacker and defensive line.

Another winning season isn't out of the question if the unknowns make a splash.

+28 Central Michigan's sack differential last year. The Chippewa defense had the most in the MAC (35) and allowed the fewest (8).

The starting backfield features two all-league candidates in senior tailback Eric Flowers, a workhorse who ran for 1,302 yards and 16 touchdowns last year, and his lead blocker, 6'1", 205-pound fullback Jason Meyer. Sophomore tailback Vince Webber (6.3 yards per carry in 37 attempts) is being groomed to replace Flowers as the featured back.

Flynn said he feels good about junior quarterback Pete Shepherd, who was erratic (46.9 completion percentage, 4 touchdowns and 11 interceptions) but got into a nice groove once the ground game got established. With Flowers and Meyer around, Shepherd knows he doesn't have to be the focal point of the offense, although he's got a good enough arm (2,005 passing yards) to keep defenses honest.

Who the heck he'll throw to, though, is anybody's guess. CMU lost four of its top five receivers from last year, including two-time All-MAC wideouts Reggie Allen and Bryan Schorman. Returnees Rory Nevins, David Hannah and Anthony Jones had one catch between them last year. Juco transfer Fletcher Smith and a group of freshmen — Jammarl O'Neal, Calvin Carter, Dante McKnight and Roderick Means — should push their way past some of the upperclassmen. The size is there. Senior tight end Mark Swetz, a capable target and end blocker, returns. He had 18 receptions for 233 yards.

Three starters return on the offensive line, including both tackles, 6'7", 300-pounder Eric Page and 6'7", 305-pound Matt Brayton. New offensive line coach Mike Cummings, who returned after one year with Michigan State, has to sort out candidates for the center and other guard slots.

The Chippewas lost five starters from a much-improved defense that racked up 120 tackles for losses and cut its points allowed by more than half from 1997. CMU lost three good ones up front in four-year nose guard Calvin Massenberg, All-MAC tackle Jon McCall and C.J. Remmo, but Flynn thinks seniors Joe Adam and Jerry Stempien can help fill the void. Adam, a tackle, had 44 tackles last season, eight for losses, while Stempien made 17 tackles as a reserve nose guard. The ends are quick and experienced. There's some good depth with four seniors rotating in the two slots — starters Walter Jenkins and Gabe McMasters and reserves Darnell Wilson (11 tackles for loss) and Jerry Zaremba.

Twin inside linebackers Jason and Jeremy Gold are gone. Sophomore Abdullah Muhammad, who had 46 tackles as a reserve last year, anchors one inside slot while junior Casey Laughlin and redshirt freshman Darvin Lewis went into spring ball battling for the other. Laughlin could be moved back to outside linebacker if Lewis wins out. Laughlin had 27 tackles last year. CMU is looking for attackers in case the defensive line can't match its 1998 production.

Brian Leigeb returns as the bellcow of the secondary after 129 tackles, a team high, and three interceptions. The 6'2" Leigeb is a candidate for All-MAC honors, as are sophomore cornerbacks Tedaro France and Wayne Dudley, who both show tremendous upside. France, who had three interceptions, was second team All-MAC as a redshirt freshman last fall. Dudley broke up 15 passes.

Punter Jake Kemp had a 37.4 average in 1998. Kicker Paul Savich returns looking to improve upon an 11-of-20 showing on field goals although he did convert all 24 extra points.

Depth Chart

OFFENSE (7)

SE	82	Jammarl O'Neal (Fr., 0)	11	Anthony Jones (Jr., 1)
LT	**71**	**Eric Page (Sr., 2)**	78	Eric Dumont (So., 0)
LG	68	Nick Ferguson (So., 1)		Eric Schulenberg (Fr., 0)
C	51	Kevin Barry (Jr., 2)	59	Anders Hill (So., 1)
RG	**61**	**John Herrold (Jr., 2)**	57	Jason Wennerstrom (Sr.,0)
RT	**79**	**Matt Brayton (So., 1)**	63	Paul Brieger (Fr., 0)
TE	**88**	**Mark Swetz (Sr., 3)**	35	Eric Salani (Jr., 2)
QB	**14**	**Pete Shepherd (Jr., 2)**	15	Derek Gorney (Fr., 0)
FB	**27**	**Jason Meyer (Sr., 2)**	39	Joe Fuller (Jr., 2)
RB	**30**	**Eric Flowers (Sr., 3)**	2	Vince Webber (So., 1)
FL	5	Rory Nevens (Sr., 3)		Fletcher Smith (So., 0)

DEFENSE (6)

DE	**49**	**Walter Jenkins (Sr., 2)**	55	Darnell Wilson (Sr., 3)
DT	69	Joe Adam (Sr., 3)	72	James Alexander (Jr., 0)
DT	70	Jerry Stempien (Sr., 3)	96	Eric Edgerton (Fr., 0)
DE	**56**	**Gabe McMasters (Sr., 3)**	91	Jerry Zaremba (Sr., 3)
LB	38	Casey Laughlin (Jr., 2)	31	Darvin Lewis (Fr., 0)
LB	**26**	**Ralph Sewell (Jr., 2)**	47	James Westrich (So., 1)
LB	9	Abdullah Muhammad (So.,1)	54	Zach Poff (Jr., 1)
CB	23	Scott Naz (Jr., 1)	22	Mark Tillman (Jr., 0)
CB	**1**	**Tedaro France II (So., 1)**	3	Finley Carter (So., 1)
SS	**4**	**Wayne Dudley (So., 1)**	21	Bruce Vesey (Fr., 0)
FS	**29**	**Brian Leigeb (Jr., 2)**	24	Talic Balom (Fr., 1)

SPECIAL TEAMS

K	19	Paul Savich (So., 1)
P	17	Jake Kemp (Sr., 1)
KR		
PR		

(#) Indicates number of returning starters
***BOLD** indicates returning starters*
NUMBER after class indicates letters won

Head Coach: Dick Flynn | **1998 Record (MAC): 6–5 (5–3)**
1999 Prediction: 3rd MAC West | **Kelly/Shorts Stadium (30,199)**

Fresno State Bulldogs

87

The pups are starting to grow up into full-sized Bulldogs, and that's a good sign for Pat Hill's Fresno State program.

For the last two seasons, Hill has been grooming his squad to make a run at the Western Athletic Conference title. And while they have taken a few hits along the way, this appears to be the year the Bulldogs may be ready to challenge TCU, Rice and SMU in the upper echelon of a stripped-down WAC.

Peter Brouillet

Payton Williams

When you have the conference's second-leading passer returning, you have to feel good about things. And Billy Volek passed for nearly 2,000 yards and 10 touchdowns while completing 58 percent of his passes. Those are good numbers, and with two years in Hill's system, Volek should be one of the WAC's top performers.

> **6** Linebacker Allan Nicholas, who has missed the last two years with a knee injury, will enjoy a sixth year of eligibility. Fresno State petitioned the NCAA to give the 6'1", 230-pound senior one more year. In 1996, he had 55 tackles.

Paris Gaines will be asked to fill Jaime Kimbrough's spot as the workhorse running back. There's little doubt Fresno State will miss Kimbrough's 1,168 yards and 10 touchdowns. But Gaines averaged just under five yards a carry. With more work, he should develop into a solid, dependable tailback. Akka-Ar Moses is a reliable fullback.

Receiver Charles Smith was a pleasant surprise as a freshman, leading the team with 42 catches and three touchdowns. He was Volek's favorite target. If teams try to take away Smith, Volek will likely look to Atnaf Harris and Rodney Wright. The duo combined for five touchdowns and can make plays once they catch the ball.

Hill is excited about Vince Branstetter, a 6'3", 255-pound senior at tight end.

There's uncertainty in the trenches. The returning starters are Rob Gatrell, who is moving from guard to tackle, and right guard Mike Stovall.

Everyone else is new. A couple of redshirt freshmen — Rodney Michael and Joe Schey — will get a chance at center and left tackle, respectively, along with redshirt freshman DeJon Kelly. Ahmad Bhatti, a 308-pound senior, probably has the inside track at left guard.

How good will they be? There's size (three 300-pounders among the starters) and talent, but it is untested talent.

While the offensive line has question marks galore, there are answers on the defensive side of the ball. There's plenty of experience and lots of competition, as the Bulldogs hope to be faster to the ball and bring more pressure to the quarterback.

Thabiti Lockhart, a transfer from California, will get a long look at nose guard. Sophomore Alan Harper will also be pushing for playing time, and sophomore Brock Torresdal was impressive in the spring. Frank Battle, Jake Probst and Seandale Jackson all gained valuable experience last year and all three will definitely be part of the scheme. And while you can only play so many people at once, the competition from within should provide the Bulldogs with a formidable and consistent pass rush.

The Bulldogs have an all-conference linebacker returning in Tim Skipper (108 tackles), but the junior will have to work hard to keep his starting job. That's how competitive things are at the linebacking positions.

Justin Johnson had 50 tackles last year and is the top returning pass rusher with four sacks. Tyrell Grayson had 30 tackles and big things are expected of him. The Bulldogs also received good news when the NCAA granted senior linebacker Allan Nicholas a sixth year of eligibility after a knee injury kept him sidelined the past two seasons.

There are 102 tackles and five interceptions between cornerbacks Payton Williams and Dante Marsh. Those two will anchor the defensive backfield as sophomore Vernon Fox and junior Anthony Limbrick replace departing seniors Cory Hall and Efrain Guizar at the twin safeties. Last year, Fresno State had 12 picks. This year, the goal is to get that number close to 20, if not beyond.

The defense came on as the season developed last year. Over the final five games, it allowed just 13.8 points. Those are the kind of numbers Hill is hoping to see from start to finish.

Jeff Hanna is the kicker; he hit just 13-of-20 field goals last year. The punting chores will be handled by senior Joel Comfort. Williams is the team's punt return man. Smith will return kicks.

Depth Chart

OFFENSE (4)

WR	17	Rodney Wright (So., 1)	2	Atnaf Harris (So., 1)
LT	75	Joe Schey (Fr., 0)	53	Kevin Jordan (Jr., 1)
LG	61	Ahmad Bhatti (Sr., 1)	66	DeJon Kelly (Fr., 0)
C	72	Rodney Michael (Fr., 0)	74	Bryce Jackson (So., 1)
RG	**55**	**Mike Stovall (So., 1)**	63	Johnny Potasi (So., 0)
RT	**68**	**Rob Gatrell (Sr., 3)**	64	Jesse Watson (So., 1)
TE	86	Vince Branstetter (Sr., 3)	46	Billy Jack Pierce (So., 1)
QB	**7**	**Billy Volek (Sr., 3)**	11	Drew Johns (So., 0)
FB	3	Akka-Ar Moses (Jr., 2)	43	Jeromy Blackwell (Sr., 1)
TB	1	Paris Gaines (So., 1)	3	Akka-Ar Moses (Jr., 2)
WR	**18**	**Charles Smith (So., 1)**	84	David Shabaglian (So., 1)

DEFENSE (5)

DT	98	Alan Harper (So., 1)	93	Brock Torresdal (So., 1)
NG	99	Thabiti Lockhart (Jr., 1)	58	Seandale Jackson (Sr., 3)
DE	**96**	**Frank Battle (Sr., 1)**	59	Jake Probst (Jr., 2)
LB	48	Giachino Chiaramonte (Jr., 2)	90	Nick Burley (Fr., 0)
LB	9	Tyrell Grayson (Jr., 2)	44	Maurice Rodriguez (So., 0)
LB	**51**	**Tim Skipper (Jr., 2)**	56	Allan Nicholas (Sr., 1)
LB	**95**	**Justin Johnson (Jr., 2)**	32	Rasheed Saafir (Sr., 1)
CB	**24**	**Payton Williams (Sr., 3)**	20	Arlan Wells (Sr., 0)
CB	**27**	**Dante Marsh (Jr., 2)**	42	Carlos Mack (So., 1)
SS	33	Vernon Fox (So., 1)	28	Curtis Edwards (So., 0)
FS	25	Anthony Limbrick (Jr., 2)	13	Terence Brown (Jr., 1)

SPECIAL TEAMS

K	39	Jeff Hanna (Sr.,2)
P	4	Joel Comfort (Sr., 1)
KR	18	Charles Smith (So., 1)
PR	24	Payton Williams (Sr., 3)

(#) indicates number of returning starters
***BOLD** indicates returning starters*
Number after class indicates letters won

Head Coach: Pat Hill — **1998 Record (WAC): 5–6 (5–3)**
1999 Prediction: 4th WAC — **Bulldog Stadium (41,031)**

Temple Owls

88

The Owls scored one of the biggest wins in school history when they stunned 10th-ranked Virginia Tech, 28–24, last season. However, many Owls observers think a bigger victory came when Bobby Wallace stayed at Temple after Auburn seriously considered snatching him from North Broad Street.

Mike Montes

Leon Washington

In his debut season at the helm, Wallace became the first Owls coach to win a league game on the road. In fact, he won two. Victories at Virginia Tech and Pittsburgh late in the season speak volumes about the team's future as well as the players' commitment to Wallace.

26 The number of failed attempts at a Big East road win until the Owls defeated Virginia Tech 28–24 in Blacksburg to give Bobby Wallace his first Division I-A head coaching victory.

Wallace used three quarterbacks due to injuries and ineffectiveness last season before inserting Devin Scott, a true freshman, into the lineup prior to the Virginia Tech game. The timing was perfect. Scott threw two touchdown passes in college football's biggest upset last season. Scott completed only 36 percent of his passes last year but still managed to throw for a team-high 459 yards and three touchdowns. Mac DeVito is a serviceable backup who gave Temple a spark nearly every time he entered a game last season. However, Wallace believes Scott is the team's best leader at the position.

The Owls graduated second-team all-Conference selection Stacey Mack, who rushed for 799 yards. Elmarko Jackson will re-inherit the starting position he shared with Mack two years ago after being relegated to backup duty last season. Fullbacks Jason McKie and Marcus Godfrey both blocked well last season but likely will have more opportunities to carry the ball in Wallace's option offense in 1999.

Carlos Johnson emerged as the Owls' deep threat at receiver after he caught 18 passes for 378 yards and pulled in a team-high six touchdowns. Split end is up for grabs. Speedster Jerry Butler seems to have the upper hand. Tight end Joe Khamis caught nine passes last year but is a below-average blocker. Wallace is hoping that Dwayne Brown, or one of two freshmen, can step up quickly.

The Owls' offensive line was supposed to be its strength in 1998, but Wallace soon discovered that size and girth mean little when pulling for option quarterbacks. Tim Leach is the exception to that rule. The 6'8", 320-pound lineman dominated at tackle last season and will be called upon to do so on the right side in 1999. Konrad Dean started half of the season at right tackle but should wind up at left tackle this fall. Theo Ross returns at right guard, while Rick Williams is penciled in at the left guard spot. Terrence Matthews takes over at center.

The defensive front improved in 1998, but Temple's run defense still allowed 4.8 yards per carry and an average of over 218 yards per game. "That's too much," says Wallace. Leadership falls to the bulked-up Peppi Pichette, who is moving from linebacker to tackle. Raheem Brock will play one end spot, Marlon Calloway the other. Mathias Nkwenti, a pass-rush specialist, is back at tackle after tying for the team lead with three sacks. The team is also counting on freshman Dan Klecko.

With better penetration expected from the linemen this season, the linebackers should have an easier time getting to ball carriers before they are five or six yards downfield. Wallace thinks a year of experience in his 4–3 set will help returnees Levar Talley, Damian Jones, Taylor Suman and Leon Gray, all of whom started games last year. Chonn Lacey intercepted three passes at cornerback last year but will be moved to outside linebacker to take advantage of his playmaking ability.

The secondary ended the season with six picks in its final five games. Former quarterback Kevin Harvey, the team's best athlete, has accepted a starting position at one corner. Jayson Thompson, Leon Washington and Fulton Fryar all played well off the bench last season at cornerback and free safety. Juco transfer Dante Coles may move into the strong safety spot if Sean Martin has trouble.

Incoming freshman Cap Poklemba is the probable kicker, while George Radu may take over punting chores. Wallace likely will use Jackson again as a kickoff returner after his explosive runbacks initiated many Owls' scoring drives last season. Temple has dangerous punt returners in Johnson and Harvey.

Depth Chart

OFFENSE (4)

SE	2 Jerry Butler (Jr., 2)	82 Khyel Dicks (Jr., 0)
LT	**79 Konrad Dean (Jr., 2)**	66 Greg Jandrisitz (So., 0)
LG	77 Rick Williams (Sr., 2)	60 Greg Hilliard (Fr., 0)
C	54 Terrence Matthews (Sr., 1)	71 Vincent Gabriele (Fr., 0)
RG	**59 Theo Ross (Sr., 3)**	70 Shane Holmes (So., 1)
RT	**74 Tim Leach (Sr., 2)**	59 Theo Ross (Sr., 3)
TE	**84 Joe Khamis (Sr., 1)**	29 Dwayne Brown (Sr., 1)
QB	17 Devin Scott (So., 1)	3 Mac DeVito (So., 1)
FB	9 Marcus Godfrey (Sr., 1)	25 Jason McKie (So., 1)
RB	4 Elmarko Jackson (Sr., 2)	20 Matt Johnson (Jr., 0)
FL	7 Carlos Johnson (So., 1)	11 Greg Muckerson (So., 1)

DEFENSE (4)

DE	89 Raheem Brock (Jr., 1)	98 Tyrone Ditzel (So., 1)
DT	90 Mathias Nkwenti (Jr., 2)	92 Russell Newman (So., 1)
DT	55 Peppi Pichette (Sr., 3)	96 David Terry (Fr., 0)
DE	33 Marlon Calloway (Jr., 0)	30 Calvin Wilkinson (Sr., 2)
LB	50 Taylor Suman (So., 1)	34 Jason Davis (So., 1)
LB	**6 LeVar Talley (Jr., 2)**	**31 Leon Gray (So., 1)**
LB	**1 Chonn Lacey (So., 1)**	**44 Damian Jones (Jr., 2)**
CB	8 Kevin Harvey (Sr., 2)	38 Brett Crespina (So., 0)
CB	22 Fulton Fryar (Sr., 2)	39 Philip Shepard (So., 0)
SS	19 Sean Martin (Sr., 1)	15 Edrick Harley (So., 1)
FS	23 Leon Washington (Sr., 1)	26 Gerard Bishop (Fr., 0)

SPECIAL TEAMS

K	Cap Poklemba (Fr., 0)
P	80 George Radu (Fr., 0)
KR	4 Elmarko Jackson (Sr., 2)
PR	8 Kevin Harvey (Sr., 2)

(#) Indicates number of returning starters
***BOLD** indicates returning starters*
NUMBER after class indicates letters won

Head Coach: Bobby Wallace **1998 Record (Big East): 2–9 (2–5)**
1999 Prediction: 7th Big East **Veterans Stadium (66,592)**

Eastern Michigan Eagles

89

The pressure's on Eastern Michigan coach Rick Rasnick, who is in the fifth and final year of his original contract. The Eagles snapped a five-game losing streak with a 10–7 win over MAC West champion Toledo in the season finale to end a down season on a high note. Improvement from a 3–8 overall mark (3–5 in the league) shouldn't be too tough. The question is, how much will be enough?

Eastern Michigan SID

Walt Church

"This is the first time since I've been here that we are not searching for a lot of candidates for starting positions," Rasnick said at the start of spring drills.

4,801 Quarterback Walt Church's career passing yards, second in Eastern Michigan history to only Charlie Batch (7,592). Church has two seasons of eligibility remaining.

They are, however, still searching for a running game. EMU was next-to-last in the conference last year with an average of 88.6 rushing yards per game. The passing game was one of the league's best. If the Eagles can show some diversity, the offense should be formidable with quarterback Walt Church and most of the rest of the unit intact.

Church, a junior, picked right up where he'd left off after redshirting in 1997. The 6'4" quarterback completed 213 of 355 passes in 1998 for 2,650 yards and 13 touchdowns in nine games. While Church was out, EMU found a solid backup in senior Joe Cosgrove, who completed 16-of-30 passes for 163 yards and a touchdown in the win over Toledo.

The top three rushers from last year return. Junior tailback Eric Powell (473 rushing yards in eight games) got most of the work but is coming back from a late-season neck injury. Rasnick also will rotate in juniors Idris Wells (289 yards, four touchdowns) and Ethan Vannoy (261 yards, four touchdowns). Powell is the top pass-catcher of the group and a favorite option of Church (27 catches, third-highest on the team last year).There's experience at the tight end/blocking back slot, with senior Pete Nyikes (6'1", 210) and junior Matt Kelly (6'3", 226).

The receiving corps is one of the MAC's best. Senior wideout Jermaine Sheffield leads the way as a physical (6'5", 202) and athletic target capable of breaking big plays. Sheffield caught 62 balls for 953 yards and four scores last year. Senior Brandon Campbell has developed into a nice complement to Sheffield. He had 27 catches for 368 yards. A pair of sophomores, John White and Erik Ibom, stepped up last year, combining for 37 catches and 453 receiving yards. Jamal Stevens, a sophomore who played in nine games, and Kenny Christian, a junior, are battling for the slot receiver spot.

The biggest hole — literally — on the offense is filling the shoes of departed tackles L.J. Shelton and Clay Mihaere. The 6'6" Shelton was a third-team All-American and one of the best line prospects in last spring's NFL Draft. Two young scrappers, sophomore Chuck Butkowski (6'3", 292) and sophomore John Grabowski (6'5", 306), had the inside track to take over at tackle. Center Tom Michel is a three-year starter, and guards Rich Chorak and Craig Cipa showed potential as first-time regulars last season.

The secondary is the strength of the defense with two starters back, senior cornerback Lincoln Dupree and senior free safety Donald McCall. Dupree's five interceptions were second in the MAC. Senior Isaac Shipp has the inside track at the other corner spot. McCall was the leading tackler last year with 128 stops. London Lindsey will be pushed by James Willingham and James Hughes for time at strong safety.

EMU needs help up front with tackle Troy Campbell (eight sacks) gone. There's good news in the form of Jeremaine Kyles (6'2", 287), who returns after sitting out last year with a foot injury. Vets Ashley Travis (6'4", 242) and James Turner (6'2", 265) are back.

At inside linebacker, sophomore Scott Russell (99 tackles) and junior Jason Short (55 tackles) made solid impacts in their first campaigns as starters and anchor the middle. The outside linebacker battles were still being sorted out in the spring with three-year letterman Clifton Robinson (44 tackles) and Kenny Philpot (49 tackles) contesting for one spot and senior Tarance Simmons (27 tackes) and senior David Taylor (6 tackles) duking it out for the other.

Punter Nick Avondet averaged 42.8 yards per kick last year. Toller Starnes, a sophomore is the kicker.

Depth Chart

OFFENSE (8)

WR	25	Brandon Campbell (Sr., 3)	80	John White (So., 1)
LT	68	Chuck Butkowski (So., 1)	75	Matt Bolles (Jr., 2)
LG	**64**	**Rich Chorak (So., 1)**	61	Luis Garcia (Jr., 0)
C	**74**	**Tom Michel (Sr., 3)**	62	Craig Cipa (Jr., 2)
RG	**62**	**Craig Cipa (Jr., 2)**	73	Cory Annett (So., 1)
RT	77	John Grabowski (So., 1)	75	Jason Pierce (Jr., 0)
TE	**36**	**Matt Kelly (Jr., 2)**	**31**	**Pete Nyikes (Sr., 3)**
QB	**19**	**Walt Church (Jr., 2)**	14	Joe Cosgrove (Sr., 1)
RB	**40**	**Eric Powell (Jr., 1)**	21	Ethan Vannoy (Jr., 1)
FL	7	Kenny Christian (Jr., 2)	86	Jamal Stevens (So., 1)
WR	**84**	**Jermaine Sheffield (Sr., 2)**	83	Erik Ibom (So., 1)

DEFENSE (7)

DE	**52**	**Ashley Travis (Sr., 3)**	92	Nikolaus Buckmeier (So., 1)
NG	95	Jeremaine Kyles (Jr., 1)	91	Hammond Russell (Fr., 0)
DE	**99**	**James Turner (Jr., 1)**	93	Jari Brown (So., 0)
LB	54	Tarance Simmons (Sr., 1)	28	David Taylor (Sr., 2)
LB	22	Ken Philpot (So., 1)	**8**	**Clifton Robinson (Sr., 3)**
LB	**44**	**Scott Russell (So., 1)**	47	Tim Camarco (So., 0)
LB	**39**	**Jason Short (Jr., 1)**	24	Randy Santa (Sr., 2)
CB	26	Isaac Shipp (Sr., 1)	6	Rickey Scott (Jr., 0)
CB	**43**	**Lincoln Dupree (Sr., 1)**	29	Erick Middleton (Fr., 0)
SS	41	London Lindsey (So., 1)	30	James Willingham (Sr., 1)
FS	**13**	**Donald McCall (Sr., 1)**	38	Terrance Dills (Fr., 0)

SPECIAL TEAMS

K	27	Toller Starnes (So., 1)
P	20	Nick Avondet (Jr., 2)
KR	80	John White (So., 1)
PR	9	Keijuan Douglas (Sr., 3)

(#) Indicates number of returning starters
***BOLD** indicates returning starters*
NUMBER after class indicates letters won

Head Coach: Rick Rasnick — **1998 Record (MAC): 3–8 (3–5)**
1999 Prediction: 4th MAC West — **Rynearson Stadium (30,200)**

NE Louisiana Indians

90

Among the cavalcade of first-year head coaches in NCAA Division I-A this year is Northeast Louisiana's Bobby Keasler, who for the last nine years was the head man at McNeese State.

Keasler's McNeese teams won five Southland Conference titles and advanced to the I-AA playoffs in seven of the last eight seasons. The 53-year-old New Iberia, La., native was named Southland Conference Coach of the Year four times.

NE Louisiana SID

Jonathan Foster

Keasler is a Northeast Louisiana graduate who was defensive coordinator when the '87 Indians won the I-AA national championship with a 43–42 victory over Marshall.

38 NLU has sent 38 players to the NFL, including three quarterbacks who have been on Super Bowl teams: Stan Humphries (San Diego, 1996), Bubby Brister (Denver, 1998, 1999) and Doug Pederson (Green Bay, 1997).

Like Marshall, Northeast is playing in Division I-A these days, and the 1999 schedule is dotted with Big Ten, SEC, and Mountain West opponents.

After three straight five-win campaigns, the Indians are tantalizingly close to breaking the .500 mark.

Alum Stan Humphries, who once passed the Chargers to the Super Bowl, has returned to Monroe to coach the quarterbacks. His top pupil is talented Andre Vige, one of six returning offensive starters, who completed 136-of-284 passes for 1,967 yards last year as a redshirt freshman.

His touchdown-to-interception ratio of 17–9 more than made up for his .479 completion average. Fellow sophomore Ben Beach split time with Vige late in the season.

The tailback job should fall to junior Mark Henderson, a transfer from Arkansas.

Senior Kond Allen, a former starter who was limited to just 35 carries last fall, and sophomore Keith Thomas, who posted a team-high 4.1 yards per carry in '98, provide support.

The fullback job also needs to be filled, but there are candidates available at the position. Senior Antwan Holmes and sophomore De'Andre Booth should split time there.

Wide receivers Marty Booker and Tony Akins combined for 103 catches for 1,749 yards a year ago and must somehow be replaced.

The top returning receiver is tight end Chris Spencer, who at 6'4", 270 pounds is most valuable as a blocker.

Senior Derrick Bridges, a big, fast target with 54 career receptions, is ready for a breakthrough season. At the other wideout, juniors Derrick Hart and Kevin Stevenson are the front-runners.

Four starters return in the offensive line to help Keasler's balanced, multiple offense get rolling.

Shane Pittard, a 292-pound senior, will start at right guard for a fourth straight year. Pittard, an All-America candidate, has on occasion filled in at center, where senior Brian Garrett is now stationed. Tackles Padraic McGinnis and Jack Rozek, a junior and senior respectively, and junior guard Roderick Daniel round out a formidable starting five.

Senior Jonathan Foster, who collected seven sacks and 13 tackles for loss, is a disruptive force at end. Donald Malveaux added seven tackles behind the line and returns at nose tackle. Mike Turner and Eric Jones should move into the lineup at tackle and end respectively, but senior Jason Shepherd, a converted offensive guard, could challenge Turner at tackle.

Desmond Beckwith and Otis Robinson have established themselves as the starting linebackers in Keasler's 4-2-5 nickel package. Last season the two combined for 134 tackles, including six for loss, and Beckwith also broke up four passes. Junior Carey Johnson is a battle-tested backup.

Cornerback Pat Dennis is an All-American. He finished second nationally in interceptions with seven, averaged 28 yards per return and scored twice, running one of his picks 100 yards to paydirt.

Junior Henry Whitehead, with two INTs, is no slouch in the other corner. Travis Singleton moves from cornerback to free safety, with Nate Jones returning at strong safety. The fifth DB should be either Cedric Robinson or juco transfer Dedric Buckles.

Either John White or Brian Fuchs can get the punting job done. White averaged just a hair under 40 yards and nailed opponents inside their 20-yard line 15 times last season. Justin Mink, last year's kickoff specialist, now adds placekicker to his resume. Kick and punt return duties are wide open.

Depth Chart

OFFENSE (6)

SE	23	Derrick Bridges (Sr., 3)	85	Sean Brown (Fr., 0)
LT	**69**	**Jack Rozek (Sr., 1)**	76	Harvey Goins (Sr., 2)
LG	66	Roderick Daniel (Jr., 2)	62	Larry Pink (So., 1)
C	53	Brian Garrett (Sr., 1)	78	Brandon Raye (Fr., 0)
RG	**64**	**Shane Pittard (Sr., 3)**	62	Larry Pink (So., 1)
RT	**65**	**Padraic McGinnis (Jr., 2)**	76	Harvey Goins (Sr., 2)
TE	**80**	**Chris Spencer (Sr., 3)**	43	Camaron Wynn (Jr., 2)
QB	**10**	**Andre Vige (So., 1)**	12	Ben Beach (So., 1)
FB	22	Antwan Holmes (Sr., 3)	44	De'Andre Booth (So., 1)
TB		Mark Henderson (Jr., 0)	**21**	**Kond Allen (Sr., 3)**
FL	7	Derrick Hart (Jr., 2)	83	Kevin Stevenson (Jr., 2)

DEFENSE (6)

DE	4	Eric Jones (Sr., 3)		Jonathan Williams (So., 0)
DT	92	Mike Turner (Sr., 3)	61	Jason Shepherd (Sr., 1)
NT	**99**	**Donald Malveaux (So., 1)**	91	Stephen Hagan (Fr., 0)
DE	**50**	**Jonathan Foster (Sr., 3)**	96	Jamma Williams (Fr., 0)
LB	**35**	**Desmond Beckwith (Sr., 3)**	52	Darren Roberts (So., 1)
LB	54	Otis Robinson (So., 1)	56	Carey Johnson (Jr., 1)
CB	**33**	**Pat Dennis (Jr., 2)**	29	Karlton Washington (So., 0)
CB	1	Henry Whitehead (Jr., 2)	47	Coby Roberts (So., 1)
SS	**8**	**Nate Jones (Sr., 3)**		Dedric Buckles (Jr., 0)
SS	34	Cedric Robinson (Jr., 2)		Dedric Buckles (Jr., 0)
FS	**24**	**Travis Singleton (Sr., 3)**		Joey Marzula (Sr., 0)

SPECIAL TEAMS

K	31	Justin Mink (So., 1)
P	26	John White (Sr., 2)

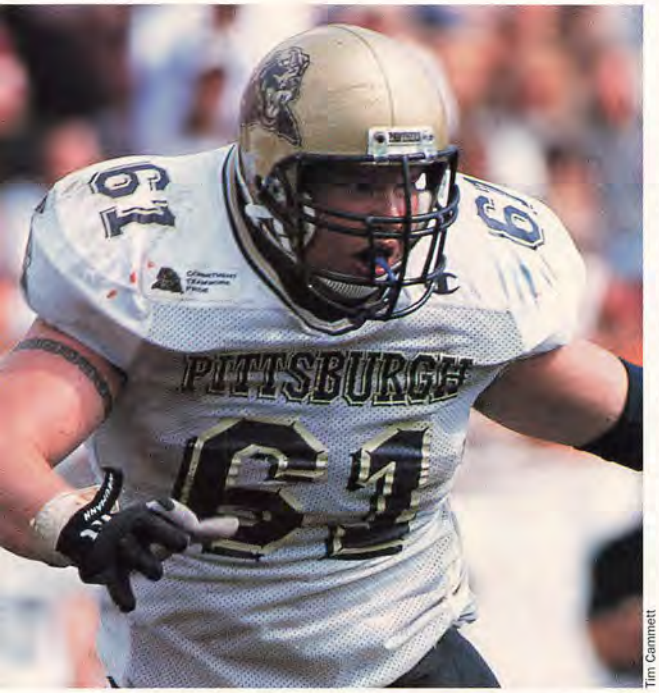
(#) Indicates number of returning starters
***BOLD** indicates returning starters*
NUMBER after class indicates letters won

Head Coach: Bobby Keasler **1998 Record (Independent): 5–6**
Malone Stadium (30,427)

Pittsburgh Panthers

91

When Pittsburgh head coach Walt Harris postponed the start of spring drills last year for what he perceived as a "lack of intensity and commitment" on the part of his players during the winter conditioning program, he was sending a message that would have to wait a year to be received.



Tim Cammett

Ethan Weidle

Springtime was already upon the Panthers when Harris delivered his resounding bulletin that off-season workouts are a major priority, so he relented after two days. What happened next, Harris says, wasn't all that surprising. "We didn't work like we should have, so we didn't deserve to win."

62 Pittsburgh has recorded 62 sacks over the last two seasons, its highest two-year total since 1990-91, when the Panthers' defense registered 64.

As it turned out, Pittsburgh's 2–9 record and winless mark in the Big East (0–7) were partly the results of complacency after the team had achieved its first postseason berth in eight years the season before.

For those players who have returned, the mind-set is markedly different. "We didn't want the same thing to happen this year," says wide receiver Latef Grim. "So we all gave 100 percent during the winter."

Quarterback reps during the spring were divided among four candidates: senior Matt O'Connor, junior John Turman, sophomore David Priestley and redshirt freshman Tyler Novak. O'Connor has emerged as the team's third starting quarterback in as many years. But the long-term answer may be Priestley, a transfer from Ohio State who delivers the intermediate passes with accuracy but has to work on his downfield range.

Junior Nick Goings, also a transfer from Ohio State, has emerged as the starter at tailback after a strong spring. At 215 pounds, he has the size to take a pounding. His backup, Brandon Williams, shares the burden of reviving a running game that averaged only 2.9 yards per carry. Williams became the first Pittsburgh true freshman since Tony Dorsett to start a season-opener. He packs plenty of punch with his 6'0", 210-pound frame, and the coaches are hoping he'll be able to sneak out of the backfield to catch the occasional pass with more frequency as well.

Grim, a junior, is one of the leading wide receivers in the nation. In his first season, Grim led the conference in receiving yards per game (90.6) on his way to first-team All-Big East honors. Sophomore R.J. English and senior Kenney Ketchen will split time at split end, and hopefully divert some of the defensive coverage from Grim.

The offensive line should develop into one of Pittsburgh's bright spots. Seniors Ryan Hansen and Mark Browne return at left and right tackle, respectively, while Jeff McCurley, a one-time starter at defensive tackle, switches from left guard to center. The line's leader is senior Ethan Weidle, who will start the year at right guard. But if the Panthers start to allow sacks at a rate similar to last year, Weidle could be moved to a vulnerable spot. Khiawatha Downey takes over at left guard. Downey is the line's best athlete but also raw and untested.

Returning defensive line starters include fifth-year senior Julian Graham at rush end and senior nose tackle Demond Gibson. But Graham has been relegated to backup duty by the emergence of Brandon Dewey, who was a primary reserve a year ago. Look for redshirt freshman Ryan Smith to serve as the other 6'4" bookend. Sophomore Kent Featsent and junior Mike White get the first shot at tackle. White has the size and strength to become a force against the run.

The linebackers could be an imposing group. Perimeter starters Karim Thompson and Nick Cole are still around, along with Amir Purifoy. In the middle, sophomore Ryan Gonsales, who possesses a nonstop motor, replaces All-Big East performer Phil Clarke.

Cornerback Hank Poteat is one of the country's rising stars. After he led the Big East with six interceptions, the Thorpe Award is not out of the question for '99. At the other corner, redshirt freshman Demetrious Rich steps in. Senior safeties Seth Hornack and D.J. Dinkins are vulnerable to big plays, but are adept at stuffing the run.

Placekicker Nick Lotz displayed some long-range ability after he was given the job for the final three games. Senior Greg DeBolt is the incumbent punter. Poteat set a school record for kickoff return yards in a season (764) and is the top punt returner as well.

Depth Chart

OFFENSE (5)

SE	84	R.J. English (So., 1)		5	Kenney Ketchen (Sr., 1)
LT	**73**	**Mark Browne (Sr., 1)**		70	Joe Manganello (Fr., 0)
LG	72	Khiawatha Downey (Fr., 0)		77	Bryan Anderson (Fr., 0)
C	60	Jeff McCurley (Jr., 2)		64	Chad Reed (Fr., 0)
RG	**61**	**Ethan Weidle (Sr., 3)**		68	Timothy Robertson (Jr., 0)
RT	**76**	**Ryan Hansen (Sr., 1)**		69	Dan Cornelius (Sr., 0)
TE	93	Ben Kopp (Sr., 3)		88	Kirk McMullen (Sr., 3)
QB	9	Matt O'Connor (Sr., 1)		10	John Turman (Jr., 0)
FB	38	Chris Feola (Sr., 2)		40	Mark Moothart (So., 1)
TB	37	Nick Goings (Jr., 0)		**34**	**Brandon Williams (So., 1)**
FL	**83**	**Latef Grim (Jr., 1)**		6	Julius Dixon (Sr., 1)

DEFENSE (7)

LE	58	Ryan Smith (Fr., 0)		57	Bryan Knight (So., 1)
DT	54	Keith Featsent (So., 0)		97	Mike White (Jr., 1)
NT	**94**	**Demond Gibson (Sr., 3)**		67	Mike Bosnic (So., 1)
RE	56	Brandon Dewey (So., 1)		**45**	**Julian Graham (Sr., 3)**
LB	**22**	**Karim Thompson (Sr., 3)**		2	Kody Miller (Sr., 1)
LB	55	Ryan Gonsales (So., 1)		52	Bryan Jacobs (Jr., 2)
LB	19	Amir Purifoy (So., 1)		**39**	**Nick Cole (So., 1)**
LC	**31**	**Hank Poteat (Sr., 3)**		3	Isaac Williams (Sr., 0)
RC	8	Demetrious Rich (Fr., 0)		21	Chiffon Allen (Sr., 2)
SS	**26**	**Seth Hornack (Sr., 3)**		14	Mark Ponko (So., 1)
FS	**1**	**D.J. Dinkins (Sr., 3)**		25	Ramon Walker (Fr., 0)

SPECIAL TEAMS

K	35	Nick Lotz (So., 1)
P	16	Greg DeBolt (Sr., 1)
KR	31	Hank Poteat (Sr., 3)
PR	31	Hank Poteat (Sr., 3)

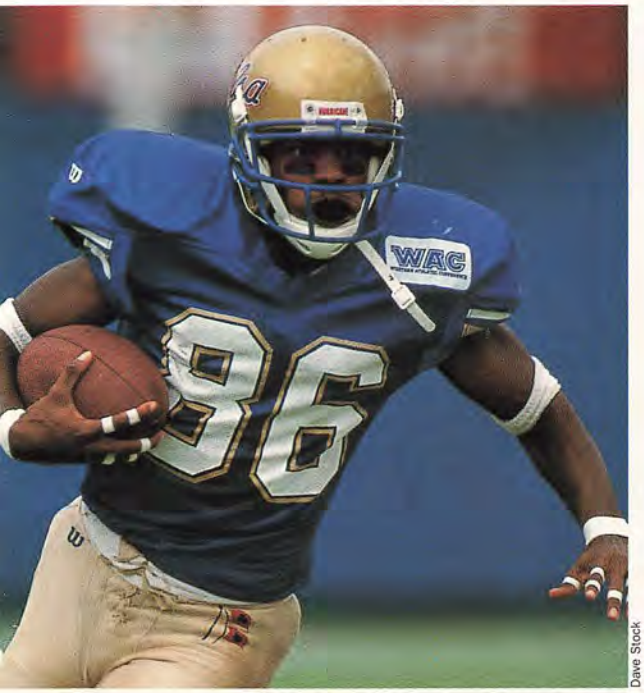
(#) Indicates number of returning starters
***BOLD** indicates returning starters*
NUMBER after class indicates letters won

Head Coach: Walt Harris — **1998 Record (Big East): 2–9 (0–7)**
1999 Prediction: 8th Big East — **Pitt Stadium (56,150)**

Tulsa Golden Hurricane 92

It would seem that Tulsa head coach Dave Rader has his work cut out for him entering the 1999 season.

After all, the Golden Hurricane must replace one of the most productive quarterbacks in the school's storied history at the position in John Fitzgerald, who threw for more than 5,800 yards in his career. Rader must replace the most productive receiver in the WAC in 1998 in Wes Caswell, who averaged 5.8 receptions per game.


Dave Stock

Damon Savage

And if that isn't enough, he must overcome the loss of two running backs, Charlie Higgins and Reggie Williams, who combined to lead Tulsa in rushing each of the previous four seasons.

15/14 Tulsa quarterbacks combined to throw more interceptions (15) than touchdown passes (14) last season.

A daunting task to be sure, especially since the Golden Hurricane finished just 4–7 in 1998, including 2–6 in WAC play. But Rader believes Tulsa will be even stronger at quarterback this year despite the loss of Fitzgerald, who averaged 232 yards per game in total offense. Junior Michael Wall, who has filled in for the injured Fitzgerald in each of the last two seasons, is the heir apparent. He completed 62-of-112 passes for 711 yards in seven games.

The loss of longtime starters Higgins and Williams, who each gained 447 yards and scored two touchdowns as seniors, may not be as devastating as it appears on paper, because Tulsa has reloaded at the position.

Senior John Mosley, who rushed for 201 yards in the Wyoming victory, averaged 6.4 yards per carry as a junior and has started three games in each of the last two seasons.

Junior Kevin Isham and sophomore Ken Bohanon are both bigger power-type backs.

The loss of Caswell, an All-WAC receiver who made the most out of a rare sixth-year of NCAA eligibility by catching 52 passes in just nine games, is lessened by the return of Damon Savage, a 1997 All-WAC performer, who caught 42 passes and scored five TDs in an injury-plagued 1998 campaign.

Also back is jack-of-all-trades senior Jerrold Smith, who helped quarterback Tulsa past UNLV in that 20–16 squeaker last season. He has had 33 receptions in each of the last two seasons.

Senior Pete Muther, who saw action in 11 games and caught just two passes, will get first crack at tight end.

Both tackles, including first team All-WAC performer Jason Mills, need to be replaced. But Rader is very excited about the fact that junior guards Steve Wiedower and sophomore Aaron Haddock return, as does junior center Steve Schiller. Senior Anthony Ratica also saw starting time at guard.

The question entering the 1999 season is who can replace defensive tackles Ryan Farley and Tim Martin.

The Golden Hurricane ranked a woeful 92nd in the nation in rush defense, allowing an average of 189.3 yards per game on the ground. And Farley and Martin combined for nine of the team's 14 quarterback sacks.

Junior Chris Odom returns to start at one defensive end spot. Senior Andy Taylor will likely start at one of the tackle spots. Junior Jake Lyon and senior Mike Jones will likely get the nod at the other tackle and end openings respectively.

The linebackers will be asked to carry the load early in 1999. Junior outside linebacker Ashon Farley led the team in tackles with 71 while sophomore outside linebacker Ryan Cook wasn't far behind with 66 even after splitting time with junior Philip Abode, who also returns. Senior middle linebacker Jeremy McClure (51 tackles) and junior backup Clay Johnson (52 tackles) are also back.

Cornerback Todd Franz, who finished fourth in the WAC with 13 passes broken up, returns to anchor what Rader believes could be one of the best defensive backfields he's had in his 12 years at the school. Junior Sedrick Lusk is the front-runner for the other starting corner spot if he can hold off the challenge from redshirt freshman Brett Butler. Both starting safeties — senior strong safety Spencer Braggs and junior free safety Chris Miller — return.

Sophomore Casey Lipscomb will punt. Sophomore Chris Earnest takes over the full-time placekicking duties.

Mosley will handle kickoff duties, while Braggs will likely return punts.

Depth Chart

OFFENSE (5)

WR	7	**Jerrold Smith (Sr., 2)**	2	Donald Moten (So., 1)
LT	52	Don Douglas (Sr., 1)	75	Jake Stoetzner (Fr., 0)
LG	74	Aaron Haddock (So., 1)	78	**Anthony Ratica (Sr., 2)**
C	65	**Steve Schiller (Jr., 2)**	60	Jimmy Jett (Sr., 1)
RG	61	**Steve Wiedower (Jr., 2)**	71	Bobby Weeks (Sr., 2)
RT	72	Kevin Shaffer (So., 1)	73	Jason Daniluk (Fr., 0)
TE	84	Pete Muther (Sr., 2)	94	Keith Carey (Jr., 2)
QB	12	Michael Wall (Jr., 2)	9	Robert Stephenson (So., 1)
RB	5	John Mosley (Sr., 3)	21	Kevin Isham (Jr., 2)
FL	10	Willie Ponder (So., 1)	82	Jarrett Nixon (So., 0)
WR	86	**Damon Savage (Sr., 3)**	38	Andrew LeCrone (Sr., 1)

DEFENSE (8)

DE	92	**Chris Odom (Jr., 2)**	98	Mark Mallory (Fr., 0)
DT	47	Andy Taylor (Sr., 1)	77	Bruce Thomas (Fr., 0)
DT	90	Jake Lyon (Jr., 1)	93	Jeff Hewitt (Jr., 0)
DE	55	Mike Jones (Sr., 1)	99	Justin Dixon (So., 0)
LB	51	Ryan Cook (So., 1)	8	**Philip Abode (Jr., 2)**
LB	37	**Jeremy McClure (Sr., 2)**	50	Clay Johnson (Jr., 2)
LB	46	**Ashon Farley (Jr., 2)**	57	Brad Hawkins (Fr., 0)
CB	1	Sedrick Lusk (Jr., 2)	9	Keithan McCorry (Fr., 0)
CB	4	**Todd Franz (Sr., 3)**	24	Brett Butler (Fr., 0)
SS	22	**Spencer Braggs (Sr., 3)**	20	**Taquan Gullett (Sr., 1)**
FS	32	**Chris Miller (Jr., 1)**	6	Gavin Engle (Jr., 0)

SPECIAL TEAMS

K	18	Chris Earnest (So., 1)
P	29	Casey Lipscomb (So., 1)
KR	5	John Mosley (Sr., 3)
PR	22	Spencer Braggs (Sr., 3)

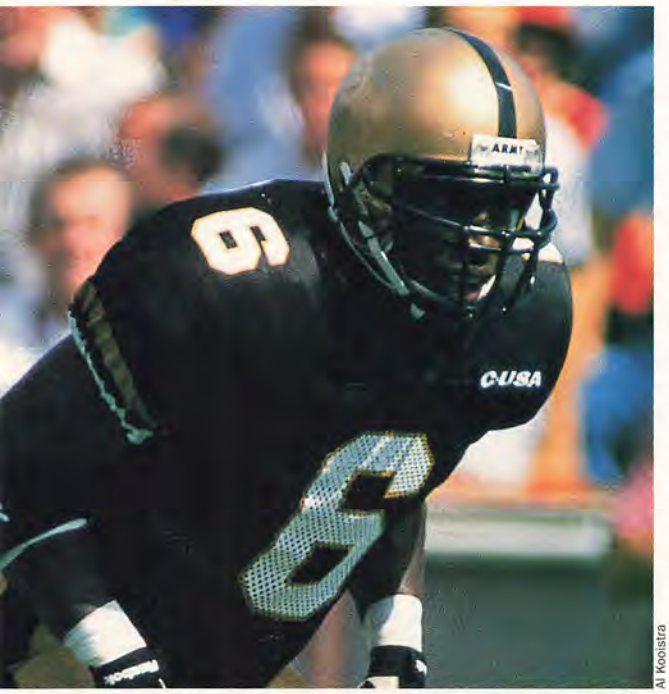
(#) Indicates number of returning starters
***BOLD** indicates returning starters*
NUMBER after class indicates letters won

Head Coach: Dave Rader
1999 Prediction: 5th WAC
1998 Record (WAC): 4–7 (2–6)
Skelly Stadium (40,385)

Army Cadets

93

More than half a century after Mr. Inside and Mr. Outside brought gridiron glory to West Point, Army is still the king of the ground game. The Black Knights of the Hudson led the nation in rushing in 1998 for the second time in three years and captured their third national rushing title since Bob Sutton's arrival as head coach in 1991. Under Sutton, the Cadets have never finished lower than seventh nationally in rushing.



Al Koolstra

Lyle Weaver

But the Army mule is a one-trick pony. The '98 Cadets finished 110th out of 112 Division I-A teams and last in Conference USA in passing. A little more balance is in order.

"We've been able to hit the big pass," says Sutton, "but we'd like to add more ball-control passing to take advantage of the opportunities when they are there."

293.8 Number of rushing yards amassed per game by Army last season, the most of any team in Division I-A.

With Joe Gerena taking the controls full-time at quarterback and a couple of talented but underused wide receivers itching to get their hands on the ball, a more effective passing game should emerge.

Gerena, a junior, takes over for two-year starter Johnny Goff and adds a strong, accurate arm to the Cadets' arsenal. Army improved from one touchdown pass in '97 to six in '98, and Gerena, in a limited role, threw three of them. Not only were Gerena's passing numbers tops on the team last fall, he also is the top returning rusher with 267 net yards. His 25- and 69-yard touchdown runs against Navy earned him game MVP honors and showcased his skills as an option quarterback.

John Johnson, a 196-pound senior with speed and quickness, and Brandan Rooney, a quick, explosive 192-pound senior who also happens to be a dangerous kick returner, will draw the halfback assignments. Fullback Michael Wallace, a 232-pound junior with a tremendous burst through the line, has Sutton toying with the idea of a featured back, a rarity in the coach's offensive format.

There is a wealth of untapped big-play potential in the receiving corps. Split end Grady Jett, with speed to burn and soft hands, paced the '98 Cadets with 14 catches and also averaged 14.3 yards on six rushing attempts. Backup Gary Williams, a gifted athlete with a knack for getting open deep, will get regular duty off the bench. Senior Shaun Castillo inherits the tight end job, which in the Army system is 99 parts blocking and one part receiving.

Senior guard Mark Prehar is the lone returning starter in the offensive line, and his leadership is one of the keys to Army's success this year, since the new starters — tackles Randy Overstreet and Paul Henderson, guard Josh Gonzalez and center Dustin Plumadore — are all untested.

On defense, David Hageman, Ron Sporer and Scott Kozak all return in a restructured front four. Hageman has been moved from end to tackle and will share the inside with noseguard Kozak, one of the league's most hard-nosed run stuffers. Sporer, Brian King and converted linebacker Zach Hurst enter the season as a three-man rotation at end.

Army's linebacking corps is a match for any in the conference. Lyle Weaver and Adisa King are both former defensive backs who man the outside positions with speed, tenacity and excellent coverage skills. Weaver led the squad in tackles as a '98 sophomore with 118, including 15 for losses of 60 yards, and four sacks. Senior Nate Hunterton is back in the middle after collecting 78 total stops, good for third on the team.

Senior Clay Daniels saw action in all 11 games at free safety. Junior strong safety Derick McNally picked off three passes last season to go with eight tackles for loss. Sutton believes Brian Zickefoose, who was converted from offense this spring, could have an immediate impact in the secondary. Tony Coaxum and Andrew Burke, who learned on the job and grabbed three INTs between them, return in the corners, where sophomore Brent Dial and junior Imani Dupree are mounting stiff challenges. Dial may start ahead of Burke.

Graham White ranked ninth in the nation with 44.7 yards per punt and was awarded with All-C-USA honors. Placekicker Eric Olsen has graduated, leaving senior Matt Parker as heir apparent. Rod Richardson, who finished as the conference's top return specialist, is gone, but Rooney's 23-yard average on kickoff returns was the league's second best, and he is back.

Depth Chart

OFFENSE (2)

SE	96 Grady Jett (Sr., 2)	88 Gary Williams (Sr., 1)
LT	72 Paul Henderson (So., 0)	60 Jonathan Karpuk (Jr., 0)
LG	76 Josh Gonzalez (Jr., 0)	53 Brian Demcher (Sr., 0)
C	68 Dustin Plumadore (So., 0)	64 Brandon Calhoun (Jr., 0)
RG	65 **Mark Prehar (Sr., 2)**	62 Eric Lundy (Jr., 0)
RT	73 Randy Overstreet (Sr., 1)	74 Jared Churchill (So., 0)
TE	84 Shaun Castillo (Sr., 1)	80 Clint Dodson (So., 0)
QB	19 Joe Gerena (Jr., 1)	14 Chad Jenkins (So., 0)
LH	**2 John Johnson (Sr., 1)**	44 Reno Ferri (Sr., 2)
FB	32 Michael Wallace (Jr., 1)	33 Alton McCallum (So., 0)
RH	26 Brandan Rooney (Sr., 2)	28 Gary Bartels (So., 0)

DEFENSE (8)

DE	86 Zach Hurst (Jr., 1)	58 Brian King (Sr., 2)
DT	**81 David Hageman (Sr., 2)**	75 John Kelley (So., 0)
NG	**70 Scott Kozak (Sr., 2)**	71 Mike Larkin (Jr., 1)
DE	**90 Ron Sporer (Jr., 2)**	58 Brian King (Sr., 2)
LB	48 Adisa King (Sr., 2)	56 Brandon Kelly (Sr., 1)
LB	**55 Nate Hunterton (Sr., 2)**	59 Wes Greenwood (So., 1)
LB	**6 Lyle Weaver (Jr., 2)**	53 B.J. Wiley (So., 0)
CB	**17 Tony Coaxum (Sr., 2)**	33 Imani Dupree (Jr., 1)
CB	21 Brent Dial (So., 1)	**22 Andrew Burke (Jr., 2)**
SS	**4 Derick McNally (Jr., 2)**	16 Rob Newbauer (Sr., 0)
FS	38 Brian Zickefoose (So., 0)	23 Clay Daniels (Sr., 2)

SPECIAL TEAMS

K	8 Matt Parker (Sr., 0)
P	13 Graham White (Sr., 1)
KR	26 Brandan Rooney (Sr., 2)
PR	26 Brandan Rooney (Sr., 2)

(#) Indicates number of returning starters
***BOLD** indicates returning starters*
NUMBER after class indicates letters won

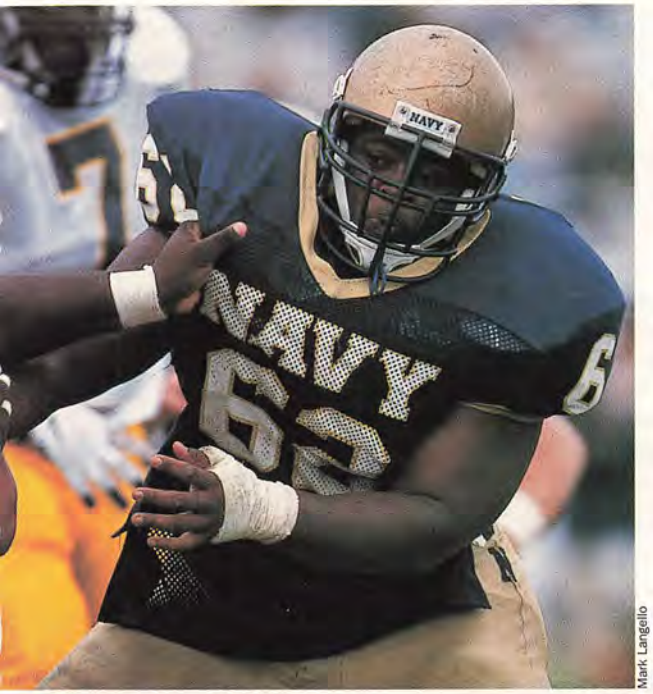
Head Coach: Bob Sutton — **1998 Record (C-USA): 3–8 (2–4)**
1999 Prediction: 7th C-USA — **Michie Stadium (39,929)**

Navy Midshipmen

94

After posting consecutive winning seasons for the first time in nearly two decades, Navy took a tumble in 1998, going 3–8 in part because they lost 16 starters from the 1997 squad, including quarterback Chris McCoy.

Navy coach Charlie Weatherbie can't complain this year about a lack of experience. The Midshipmen return several seasoned lettermen.



Mark Langello

Terrence Anderson

Still, Weatherbie faces perhaps his biggest challenge in five seasons. The Midshipmen play five teams that appeared in bowl games last season. "It's probably the toughest schedule we've had," he says.

> **27** The number of turnovers suffered by Navy in '98. "If you look at teams that have winning records, they have maybe 11, 12 turnovers," coach Charlie Weatherbie says.

Brian Broadwater and Steve Holley had difficulty replacing former Heisman Trophy candidate McCoy, who rushed for the second-most yards in NCAA history for a quarterback. The two split time last year, but Broadwater is the starter now.

Broadwater, a junior with an average arm and great quickness, started the last six games after Holley injured his shoulder, leading Navy to come-from-behind victories over Colgate and Boston College in his first two starts. He wasn't as effective the rest of the way. Holley's biggest asset is his strong arm.

At fullback, Weatherbie will count on sophomores Raheem Lambert, Pat Haines and Eric Reed. Lambert, a much-improved blocker, will start.

Besides Broadwater, senior John Vereen returns as the biggest offensive threat after averaging seven yards a carry on 30 attempts. Sophomore Dre Brittingham starts at the other slotback position. Senior Jon Fay and sophomore Marlon Terrell are expected to see significant time.

The loss of sophomore wideout Ryan Read, one of the offense's biggest weapons, right before spring practice was a major blow. Read, who averaged 25.5 yards a catch on 17 receptions, resigned from the academy in part because he wanted to play at a school that threw more often. He led the nation in touchdowns per reception, hauling in six scores.

The wideouts won't be used much. Senior Travis Williams features excellent size (6'3", 203), but lacks game-breaking speed. He'll start along with speedy sophomore Harry Spencer, who could develop into a big-play threat.

The line may be the strength of the offense. Three starters are back, led by senior center Terrence Anderson, an All-America candidate. Though undersized at 5'11", 279, Anderson has tremendous strength, smarts and technique. "If you line up against Terrence Anderson, you'd better be prepared to play for 60 minutes," West Virginia defensive line coach Bill Kirelawich says. "He's an exceptional competitor."

Navy appears to be in good shape at both tackle positions. Senior Kostas Hatzidakis and junior Hoot Stahl handle pass and run blocking with equal aplomb.

Guards Jarrett Davies and Philip Yeh must develop if Navy is to match its rushing output of last season, when the Midshipmen ranked fourth nationally at 261 yards per game.

With the switch from a 4–2 to a 3–4 defense, Navy must find a nose guard. Senior David Ryno (6'3", 276) is the leading candidate. Senior Gino Marchetti started 10 games at end last year and had two sacks, tying him for the team lead. He will now back up Ryno at nose guard. Starting ends Alex Murray and Brad Wimsatt will have problems with big, physical lines. They combined for only one sack in 1998.

Senior John Chavous moves from safety to outside linebacker. He'll start along with senior Geno Fountain. Both have excellent speed and are solid tacklers. Inside, seniors Matt Daigneault and Jamie McIlvain, junior Daryl Hill and sophomore Ryan Hamilton each started at some point last season. This year's starters are Hamilton and junior Mike McGee.

Navy's inspirational leader on defense is strong safety Jamie Doffermyre, an aggressive, punishing tackler who led the Midshipmen in tackles with 127. Doffermyre guides an experienced group, which includes senior free safety Gary Lane, junior cornerbacks Mike Wiedl and Davede Alexander and sophomore cornerback Bas Williams.

Senior punter Tray Calisch averaged 40.6 yards and landed seven of 48 punts inside the 20. The kicking job belongs to senior Tim Shubzda.

Depth Chart

OFFENSE (6)

WR	82	Harry Spencer (So., 0)	83	Matt O'Donnell (Sr., 2)
LT	**60**	**Kostas Hatzidakis (Sr., 2)**	56	Pete Peemoeller (Jr., 0)
LG	63	Philip Yeh (Jr., 0)	78	Bryan Rowe (So., 0)
C	**62**	**Terrence Anderson (Sr., 1)**	68	Pat Singleton (Sr., 1)
RG	71	Jarrett Davies (Sr., 1)	70	Scott Swantner (Jr., 1)
RT	**79**	**Hoot Stahl (Jr., 1)**	72	Doug Howard (Sr., 1)
QB	**14**	**Brian Broadwater (Jr., 1)**	5	Steve Holley (Sr., 1)
SB	**4**	**John Vereen (Sr., 2)**	87	Jon Fay (Sr., 0)
SB	41	Dre Brittingham (So., 1)	45	Marlon Terrell (So., 0)
FB	38	Raheem Lambert (So., 0)	40	Pat Haines (So., 0)
WR	**11**	**Travis Williams (Sr., 2)**	83	Matt O'Donnell (Sr., 2)

DEFENSE (5)

LE	91	Alex Murray (Sr., 0)	95	Bwerani Nettles (So., 0)
NG	96	David Ryno (Sr., 2)	**98**	**Gino Marchetti (Sr., 1)**
RE	**94**	**Brad Wimsatt (Jr., 2)**	92	Ivan Garvin (Sr., 1)
LB	49	Geno Fountain (Sr., 0)	42	Rashad Jones (Jr., 1)
LB	48	Mike McGee (Jr., 1)	47	Matt Daigneault (Sr., 1)
LB	58	Ryan Hamilton (So., 0)	55	Daryl Hill (Jr., 1)
LB	9	John Chavous (Sr., 2)	52	Shaka Martin (So., 0)
LC	28	Davede Alexander (Jr., 1)	6	Bas Williams (So., 1)
RC	**29**	**Mike Wiedl (Jr., 1)**	6	Bas Williams (So., 1)
SS	**24**	**Jamie Doffermyre (Sr., 2)**	26	Chris Lepore (Jr., 1)
FS	**1**	**Gary Lane (Sr., 2)**	17	Matt Brooks (So., 0)

SPECIAL TEAMS

K	15	Tim Shubzda (Sr., 3)
P	31	Tray Calisch (Sr., 1)
KR	41	Dre Brittingham (So., 1)
PR	41	Dre Brittingham (So., 1)

(#) Indicates number of returning starters
***BOLD** indicates returning starters*
NUMBER after class indicates letters won

Head Coach: Charlie Weatherbie **1998 Record 3–8**

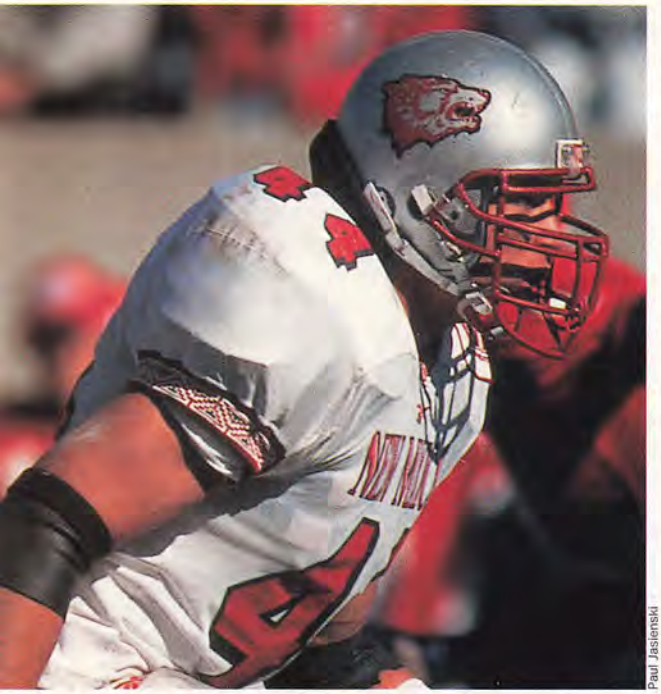
Navy-Marine Corps Memorial Stadium (30,000)

New Mexico Lobos

95

Rocky Long's first experience as a football coach at New Mexico was a lot more fun than last year's.

While quarterbacking the Lobos in the early 1970s, Long joined two teammates in coaching the Pi Beta Phi Sorority team to two undefeated intramural seasons. "We thought coaching was easy," Long says.



Paul Jasienski

Brian Urlacher

Maybe that's because the future Debbie Long was playing defensive end in those days. With wife Debbie watching from the stands last season, Rocky Long's Lobos lost nine of their last 10 games in his first year as the head coach of a men's football team.

20 Because of injuries, the Lobos used 20 different defensive starters in 1998. That was one reason they ranked 12th in the WAC in total defense.

Long is hoping that 12 transfers will make an immediate difference this season, or at least by 2000.

New Mexico's offense was built around first-team All-WAC quarterback Graham Leigh, which actually caused some problems last season when offensive coordinator Jim Fenwick had to adjust his scheme to take better advantage of Leigh's option ability. Junior college transfer Sean Stein could be the passer to fit Fenwick's system. Junior Eric Jaworsky will have to improve to hold off Stein's challenge, after completing 13-of-20 passes in his limited duty last season.

The Lobos' running back corps features three diverse players. Senior Reginal Johnson has been dependable when healthy during his career, while redshirt freshman Quincy Wright has tremendous speed. Ted Iacenda carried the ball eight times last season as a USC fullback, yet is eligible to play right away for New Mexico and should contribute immediately. Sophomore fullback Jarrod Baxter averaged 5.0 yards on his 38 carries.

Wide receivers Martinez Williams and Germany Thompson teamed up for 92 receptions and 12 touchdowns last season. Sophomore Kirk Robbins and junior college transfers Rob Caston and Lonnie Neal also fit into Long's plans. Sophomore tight end Brian Johnson snagged 18 passes and is another key figure.

Experience and maturity are advantages in the offensive line. The Lobos come back with senior center Jason Carson, senior tackle Josh Brown, junior guard Chad Thacker and junior tackle Jon Samuelson. The issue facing Long and Co. is how to replace guard Chris Wallace, one of the team's best blockers.

On the defensive front, senior end Jason Purvis led the team with eight tackles for loss. Senior end Travis Journagan and junior tackle Henry Stephens saw considerable playing time. But three junior college transfers will be hard to keep off the field, because of their size. Stan Makaafi participated in spring drills and New Mexico Military Institute teammates Danny Hernandez and LaMarcus Spillers will arrive in August.

Size also became an issue at linebacker. In the interest of making the Lobos bigger, defensive coordinator Bronco Mendenhall moved seniors Casey Tisdale and Jeff Macrea from the line to linebacker. Junior middle linebacker Mike Barnett will be a featured player, and junior college transfers David Mauer and Amos Wilson, among others, also will contribute.

The only trouble with senior free safety Brian Urlacher leading the country with 178 tackles was that he had to do too much. The scheme is designed to funnel the primary tackling duties to three positions, not one. Plus, it's never a good sign when your free safety sets a school record for tackles.

New Mexico wants to become more disruptive after intercepting only eight passes, part of the reason the Lobos ranked last in the 16-team WAC with a minus-10 turnover ratio. Senior Marcus McDavid knocked down 13 passes to rank second in the WAC, while intercepting one. Junior Walter Bernard had two interceptions at the other corner. Junior Rantie Harper and sophomore Derrell Moten will compete for the fifth spot in the secondary. Scott Gerhardt will man the strong safety position. He can be a big playmaker.

Cort Moffitt will have a chance to handle all of New Mexico's kicking duties as a freshman. He's an excellent athlete at 6'3", 215, having made all-state in Oklahoma as a tight end. Sophomore David McKinney will compete for the placekicking job.

Williams and Johnson will lead the Lobos' return game, which was excellent at times. The coverage teams were another story. New Mexico allowed two TDs on punt returns and a 25.4-yard average on kickoff returns.

Depth Chart

OFFENSE (7)

WR	89	Martinez Williams (Sr., 3)		Rob Caston (Jr., 0)
LT	**67**	**Josh Brown (Sr., 3)**	70	Jon Oliver (So., 1)
LG	63	Jared St. Aubyn (So., 1)	68	Eric May (Fr., 0)
C	**73**	**Jason Carson (Sr., 3)**	71	James Copple (So., 0)
RG	**74**	**Chad Thacker (Jr., 2)**	77	Brian Choi (Fr., 0)
RT	**78**	**Jon Samuelson (Jr., 2)**	56	Frans Dinkelmann (Sr., 2)
TE	**47**	**Brian Johnson (So., 1)**	82	Jonathan Burrough (Jr., 2)
QB	14	Eric Jaworsky (Jr., 2)	13	Sean Stein (Jr., 0)
FB	**28**	**Jarrod Baxter (So., 1)**	46	Ted Iacenda (Jr., 0)
TB	26	Reginal Johnson (Sr., 3)	36	Quincy Wright (Fr., 0)
WR	**2**	**Germany Thompson (Sr., 1)**	80	Kirk Robbins (So., 1)

DEFENSE (8)

LE	**49**	**Jason Purvis (Sr., 3)**		Danny Hernandez (Jr., 0)
NT	52	Henry Stephens (Jr., 2)	91	Stan Makaafi (So., 0)
RE	94	Travis Journagan (Sr., 3)		LaMarcus Spillers (Jr., 0)
LB	**97**	**Jeff Macrea (Sr., 1)**	54	Stacy Washington (Sr., 3)
LB	**57**	**Mike Barnett (Jr., 1)**	35	David Mauer (Jr., 0)
LB	**59**	**Casey Tisdale (Sr., 1)**	45	Daniel Reyes (Sr., 1)
Lob	**44**	**Brian Urlacher (Sr., 3)**	38	J.R. Thornton (Fr., 0)
CB	**20**	**Marcus McDavid (Sr., 3)**	23	Stephen Persley (So., 1)
CB	**22**	**Walter Bernard (Jr., 2)**	34	Desmar Black (Fr., 0)
SS	6	Scott Gerhardt (So., 1)	99	Anthony Teal (So., 1)
FS	30	Derrell Moten (So., 1)	**4**	**Rantie Harper (Jr., 2)**

SPECIAL TEAMS

K		Cort Moffitt (Fr., 0)	96	David McKinney (So., 1)
P		Cort Moffitt (Fr., 0)	88	Jason Rubin (So., 1)
KR	89	Martinez Williams (Sr., 3)	26	Reginal Johnson (Sr., 3)
PR	89	Martinez Williams (Sr., 3)	26	Reginal Johnson (Sr., 3)

(#) Indicates number of returning starters
***BOLD** indicates returning starters*
NUMBER after class indicates letters won

Head Coach: Rocky Long | **1998 Record (WAC): 3-9 (1-7)**
1999 Prediction: 7th MWC | **University Stadium (31,218)**

Boise State Broncos

96

Forget number of returning players, the Broncos are just thankful to have a returning head coach. Dirk Koetter is the first Boise State coach to return for a second season in four consecutive years. Koetter replaced Houston Nutt, who left after one season to coach his alma mater Arkansas.

Boise State SID

Dempsey Dees

Koetter, the former offensive coordinator at Oregon, takes the Broncos through their most difficult schedule since the program jumped to Division I-A four years ago. Boise State opens at UCLA on Sept. 4 and has home games against New Mexico and Utah. Once the Broncos get into conference play, they look to be on even footing. The exciting news for Boise State, which returns from a 6–5, 2–3 inaugural season under Koetter, is the return of junior quarterback Bart Hendricks for his third season as the starter, along with one of the conference's top offensive lines.

13 Dempsey Dees led the Broncos and finished 13th in the nation with five interceptions.

Hendricks started 10 of 11 games in 1998 after taking over as the starter in the final four games of 1997. An honorable mention all-conference pick, Hendricks completed 54 percent of his passes for 1,799 yards and 13 touchdowns and turned the Broncos into a high-scoring, high-octane attack that averaged 422.64 yards per game. He should receive solid protection in 1999.

The only troublesome question the Broncos have on the line is whether senior first-team all-conference pick Keith Dilworth (6'5", 312) will be ready to open the season. Dilworth missed the spring to continue rehabilitation from a torn ACL. Ryan Groneman (6'1", 302), Jeremy Mankins (6'5", 324) and Willie Van Gorder (6'4", 318) are the remaining starters on the line. Sophomore left tackle Derek Olley (6'5", 295) replaces four-year starter Jermaine Belin. Matt Hill (6'6", 270) moves from the defensive line to offense, giving the Broncos six linemen with starting experience.

It's a different story at running back, where the Broncos lost their top two rushers and will rely on two redshirted players. Second-leading rusher, junior Shaunard Harts (406 yards) moves to defense. However, tailbacks Davy Malaythong (5'10", 190) and Gavin Reed (5'11", 205) are not inexperienced redshirts. Malaythong, a junior, and Reed, a senior, led the team in rushing in 1997 with 459 yards. The duo have both posted 4.4-speed in the 40-yard dash.

Wide receiver will be a learn-on-the-job experiment; the team's top seven wideouts have all departed. Senior Mike Davisson and sophomore Billy Wingfield are the top candidates to fill the voids.

Sophomore Jeb Putzier (6'4", 239), who caught 10 passes, is a lock at the H-back position, while seniors Dave Stachelski (6'3", 250) and Nate Colbert (6'2", 235) will battle for time at tight end.

The line should be the defense's anchor with senior four-year starter Jon Rydman (6'2", 273) as the centerpiece at left tackle. He'll be joined in the middle by junior Bradly Phillips (6'3", 290), who spent the last two seasons as the understudy to first-team all-Big West standout Bobby Setzer. On the outside, senior returning starters Andy Bennett (6'2", 235) and Mike Maloy (6'3", 234), two blue-collar workers, solidify the line. The duo combined for 63 tackles, eight sacks and eight additional tackles for loss.

Senior linebacker Bryan Johnson (6'1", 228) is back as the defense's leader. He led the team in tackles the last two seasons. Also back is junior Shawn Sandoval (6'1", 220). Experienced depth becomes a problem from there, with redshirt freshmen Ben Warren and Ruben Asumendi and junior Kareem Williams fighting for time, as well as junior college transfer Justin Howell.

In the secondary, senior Ross Farris (5'10", 193) enters his second season at the weak-side spot where he made 66 tackles and broke up four passes. Special teams standout Greg Sasser will also see time at weak safety. Seniors Marcel Yates and Makeesh Brooks return at free safety, but are being pushed by redshirt freshman Quintin Mikell. Casey Fisher is also back after missing most of the season with a torn ACL. Ryan Brinkley took over as the starting strong safety late last season. Both starting cornerbacks return, including second-team all-Big West pick Dempsey Dees. Across from Dees is Damien Schilling, who led the Broncos with 14 pass breakups.

Brett Thompson will probably take over both kicking duties.

Depth Chart

OFFENSE (4)

WR	87	Mike Davisson (Sr., 3)	5	Brian O'Neal (So., 0)
LT	71	Derek Olley (So., 1)	78	Rob Vian (Fr., 0)
LG	**74**	**Willie Van Gorder (Sr., 1)**	72	Scott Buttice (Jr., 0)
C	**64**	**Ryan Groneman (Sr., 3)**	57	Joey Horvat (Sr., 3)
RG	**61**	**Jeremy Mankins (Sr., 3)**	58	Matt Navest (So., 0)
RT	70	Greg Klum (Sr., 3)	92	Matt Hill (So., 1)
TE	89	Dave Stachelski (Sr., 2)	99	Nate Colbert (Sr., 2)
QB	**17**	**Bart Hendricks (Jr., 2)**	16	Bryan Harsin (Sr., 3)
TB	25	Davy Malaythong (Jr., 0)	29	Gavin Reed (Sr., 1)
HB	80	Jeb Putzier (So., 1)	81	Jeff Udvarhelyi (Jr., 0)
WR	8	Billy Wingfield (So., 1)	1	Jay Swillie (Fr., 0)

DEFENSE (9)

DE	**44**	**Andy Bennett (Sr., 1)**	45	Derek Burrell (Sr., 1)
DT	**90**	**Jon Rydman (Sr., 3)**	98	Bobby Hammer (Fr., 0)
DT	55	Bradly Phillips (Jr., 2)	51	Tony Altieri (Fr., 0)
DE	**68**	**Mike Maloy (Sr., 1)**	94	Jeff Copp (Jr., 1)
LB	**54**	**Shawn Sandoval (Jr., 2)**	48	Ben Warren (Fr., 0)
LB	**34**	**Bryan Johnson (Sr., 3)**	40	Ruben Asumendi (Fr., 0)
CB	**41**	**Dempsey Dees (Jr., 2)**	31	Randy Selden (Fr., 0)
CB	**10**	**Damien Schilling (Sr., 3)**	15	D. Ross (Jr., 0)
WS	**27**	**Ross Farris (Sr., 3)**	43	Greg Sasser (So., 1)
SS	2	Ryan Brinkley (Jr., 2)	3	Shaunard Harts (Jr., 2)
FS	**7**	**Marcel Yates (Sr., 3)**	21	Makeesh Brooks (Sr., 3)

SPECIAL TEAMS

K	96	Brett Thompson (Jr., 0)
P	96	Brett Thompson (Jr., 0)
KR	3	Shaunard Harts (Jr., 2)
PR	10	Damien Schilling (Sr., 3)

(#) Indicates number of returning starters
***BOLD** indicates returning starters*
NUMBER after class indicates letters won

Head Coach: Dirk Koetter — 1998 Record (Big West): 6–5 (2–3)
1999 Prediction: 3rd Big West — Bronco Stadium (30,000)

Utah State Aggies

97

Second-year coach Dave Arslanian returns 15 starters, but has huge holes to fill, namely Big West Defensive Player of the Year Tony D'Amato, who set a school record with 170 tackles. In all, seven players who earned All-Big West first or second-team honors will not be back.

The upside is that five of the team's six offensive skill positions boast returners, including dangerous tailback Demario Brown (6'1", 213). Brown, who averaged 94 yards a game, gained 846 yards on 210 carries in the one-back offense.

Utah State SID

Brad Bohn

Quarterback is somewhat controversy-free with Jeff Crosbie returning for his sophomore season. At 6'5", 192, Crosbie possesses good size and a strong throwing arm. Crosbie replaced Riley Jensen, who started the first six games before suffering an injury. Backup Logan Galli started one game before giving way to Crosbie for the final four. Crosbie completed 83 of 184 passes for 1,111 yards.

2.18 Brad Bohn hit 2.18 field goals a game last season as a sophomore. He hit 24 field goals on the season.

The Utah State offense finished the season next-to-last in total offense, last in rushing offense and fourth in passing offense. There is competition for the position if Crosbie struggles. A pair of redshirt freshmen, Jesse Fuentes and Steve Mullins, as well as Galli and Brian Benza, will challenge.

The Aggies lose top receiver Robert Scott, who ranked third in the Big West with 55 catches for 808 yards, and have little experience to fill the void. Aaron Jones is the top receiver back after catching 22 passes for 344 yards. Jones is a speedster who averaged 15.6 yards per catch and was second among receivers in touchdowns with four. Adrion Pierson started four games and caught six balls for 195 yards and a 32.5-yard average. Adam Colbert, D.J. Lewis and Artavias Thompkins saw limited action. Newcomers to watch are Ky Oday, a junior-college transfer, and Chris Downs, a transfer from Wisconsin. Bucky Orton (6'4", 239) established himself as the starting tight end last season by catching 21 passes for 190 yards. Dan Connelly (6'5", 225) had three starts and should fill in as a capable backup.

The offensive line loses two heavyweights in Joe German and Ken Watts, but senior left tackle Ben Holbrook (6'6", 297) and senior right guard Mike Lindsay (6'2", 313) are both ready to improve on all-conference honorable mention seasons. They are joined by returning starter Junior Pututau, a 6'2", 287-pound junior center. Senior Matt Lance (6'4", 283) is penciled in at right tackle and saw considerable action. Sophomore Jess Schuck (6'2", 302) is short on experience but big on size, and will likely start at left guard.

The Aggies sustained heavy losses to its defensive unit, including D'Amato at linebacker, its top two tacklers on the line in tackle Walker Fiefia and end Lindsay Hassell, plus its best secondary personnel in Johndale Carty and Craig Miller. The defense was the Aggies' saving grace in a horrid season. It topped the Big West in total defense and ranked 24th in the nation, holding opponents to 319.9 yards a game. Utah State will rely on the proven veterans already in place. On the line, that means Vaea Fiefia and Doug Madoski, as well as end Caleb Smith, who recorded 15 tackles behind the line of scrimmage. Fiefia, a 6'0", 252-pound senior,will start at right tackle, and Madoski, a 6'2", 272-pound senior, is expected to start at left tackle. Lance Sopoaga should start at the other end spot after limited exposure there. He will be challenged by Ryan Duncan, who played there until suffering a season-ending knee injury.

Tony Newson has the unenviable task of replacing the ferocious D'Amato. Newson (6'1", 234) ended the season with 40 tackles, 130 fewer than D'Amato. The junior moves from outside linebacker to the middle, where he will be flanked by juniors Brent Passey and Blake Eagal. Passey (6'1", 231) made 107 tackles, while Eagal (6'2", 230) made 72 stops.

The secondary, which allowed just 112 passing yards a game, will rely on three returning starters to keep that unit on par. Senior Donald Dicko (5'11", 195) can play either free or strong safety. Senior Vashon Garmon (6'1", 196) and sophomore Tony Walker (5'11", 183) are proven corners. Sophomore Aminifu Johnson (5'8", 188) is expected to start at strong safety.

Kicker Brad Bohn is an All-America candidate. The punter is Steve Mullins.

Depth Chart

OFFENSE (8)

WR	11	**Adrion Pierson (Sr., 3)**	16	Adam Colbert (Fr., 0)
LT	76	**Ben Holbrook (Sr., 3)**		Steve Canidate (Jr., 0)
LG	67	Jess Schuck (So., 1)	63	Matt Jenkins (Jr., 0)
C	53	**Junior Pututau (Jr., 1)**	50	Brian Shaffer (Sr., 1)
RG	57	**Mike Lindsay (Sr., 3)**		Jimmy Walker (Jr., 0)
RT	62	Matt Lance (Sr., 1)		Jeff Long (So., 0)
TE	22	**Bucky Orton (Sr., 1)**	83	Dan Connelly (Sr., 1)
QB	7	**Jeff Crosbie (So., 1)**		Jesse Fuentes (Fr., 0)
FB	21	**Demario Brown (Sr., 3)**	31	John Roberts (So., 1)
WR	9	**Aaron Jones (Jr., 2)**	80	Jamaal Petereson (So., 0)
WR	82	Artavias Thompkins (So., 1)	3	Ky Oday (Jr., 0)

DEFENSE (7)

LE	48	Lance Sopoaga (Sr., 1)	96	Ryan Duncan (So., 1)
LT	91	Doug Madoski (Sr., 1)	92	Nate Larsen (Jr., 2)
RT	72	**Vaea Fiefia (Sr., 3)**		Liua Fonua (Fr., 0)
RE	52	**Caleb Smith (Jr., 2)**	94	Brant Brown (So., 0)
LB	44	**Brent Passey (Jr., 2)**	42	Cade Smith (Jr., 1)
LB	19	Tony Newson (Jr., 2)	55	Ryan Solomona (Fr., 0)
LB	47	**Blake Eagal (Jr., 2)**	43	Josh Manning (Sr., 1)
CB	23	**Vashon Garmon (Sr., 3)**	2	Greg White (Sr., 1)
CB	1	**Tony Walker (So., 1)**	34	Gwange Pittman (So., 1)
SS	24	Aminifu Johnson (So., 1)	33	Demario Franklin (So., 1)
FS	45	**Donald Dicko (Sr., 3)**	40	Kyle Langston (So., 0)

SPECIAL TEAMS

K	26	Brad Bohn (Jr., 2)
P		Steve Mullins (Fr., 0)
KR	1	Tony Walker (So., 1)
PR	1	Tony Walker (So., 1)

(#) Indicates number of returning starters
***BOLD** indicates returning starters*
NUMBER after class indicates letters won(#)

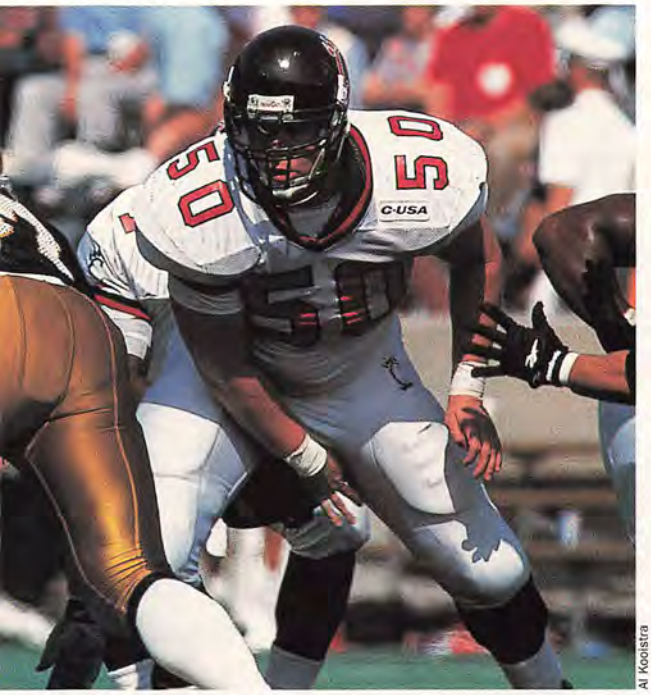
Head Coach: Dave Arslanian **1998 Record (Big West): 3-8 (2-3)**
1999 Prediction: 4th Big West **Romney Stadium (30,257)**

Cincinnati Bearcats

98

After four years of steady, continuous improvement — from 2–8–1 in 1994 to 8–4 in '97 — coach Rick Minter appeared to have the Bearcats poised for a breakthrough season in 1998.

With quarterback/wide receiver/all-purpose wizard Chad Plummer, punt returner extraordinaire Tinker Keck, linebacker Hasan Champion, center Brian Uhl and a punishing ground attack, dreams of a Conference USA title run seemed realistic.



Al Koolstra

Doug Rosfeld

But something happened on the way to the championship game. By mid-November the Bearcats were 0–9 and fighting for their lives. Injuries and countless defensive breakdowns contributed to the disaster.

41.5 The number of points surrendered per game by Cincinnati's defense in 1998, the most of any team in Division I-A.

Offensively, Cincinnati put up decent numbers. But on defense, the '98 unit finished 111th nationally overall and against the pass, 109th against the run and 112th — dead last — against scoring.

For Minter, the former defensive coordinator at Ball State and Notre Dame, the collapse was painful. "What was most disappointing was that there were so many seniors on our defense," he says. "That just shouldn't have happened."

On offense, quarterback Deontey Kenner and running back DeMarco McCleskey displayed unlimited potential as youngsters. While sharing signal-calling duties with Plummer last season, Kenner completed 55 percent of his passes for 2,047 yards. His arm and mobility make him equally effective on the dropback or the rollout.

McCleskey burst upon the scene as a true freshman last season and snatched the role of featured back from Robert Cooper. McCleskey, strong, instinctive and most productive after first contact, drew the starting assignment in six contests and finished with 861 yards (5.3 per carry) and 11 touchdowns. Cooper, the returning starter going into last season, also ran for better than five yards a carry (419 on 82 attempts).

Wide receiver Jason Collins-Baker is a two-year starter with speed and a feel for finding the open spots. Chris Archie, Dushawn Dorsey and Tye Keith are all battling at the other wideout. Keith, a smallish but quick redshirt freshman, is expected to make a big splash. Tony Smikle, the top returning receiver with 19 catches for 253 yards and one score, will line up in the slot. At tight end is Ashley Hunt, who is known more as a receiver than a blocker.

The offensive line rates as a team strength. Doug Rosfeld emerged at center last fall. Sophomore Joe Dixon moves up at left guard with Ken Biggs at right guard for a fourth straight year. Tackles Kirt Doolin and Andy Weinheimer started five games between them in '98 as freshmen.

One salvageable player from the 1998 Bearcat defensive line who figures to be a factor in '99 is Ben Piening, who drew four starts at tackle and landed on the C-USA All-Freshman team. Juco All-American Mario Monds participated in spring drills and takes over at the other tackle. Sophomore Paul Stephens and juco transfer Montrell Mitchell will line up at the ends.

Senior Kwesi Daniels, a smallish (5'11", 222) but intense competitor, moves up at middle linebacker after backing up Champion last season. Two players who made major contributions as freshmen last season, end Antwan Peek and strong safety Lewis Carter, are slated to start and inject some quickness and tenacity at the outside linebacker posts.

Keck, the free safety, is the key to the defense. He notched 20 tackles in the '98 Army game but missed the rest of the season with a knee injury, and the Bearcat defense couldn't stop the run after that. He is expected back at full-speed. Freddy Smith, the team's top returning tackler, filled the void for the final seven games and returns for '99, now at either strong safety or cornerback. Danny Adams became a starting cornerback late last season and made Freshman All-America.

Freshman Jonathon Ruffin will challenge incumbent senior Joe Judge for the kicking chores. Adam Wulfeck, a freshman walk-on last year, boomed four punts over 50 yards and nailed opponents inside their 20-yard line 12 times. Keck was *Athlon*'s 1998 preseason All-America punt returner. If he is back to 100 percent, he can turn a game around in a hurry.

Depth Chart

OFFENSE (4)

WR	2	**Jason Collins-Baker (Jr., 2)**	80	Chris Archie (So., 1)
LT	73	Ted Forrest (So., 1)	76	Mike Love (Jr., 0)
LG	68	Joe Dixon (So., 1)	70	Jason Lisek (Sr., 0)
C	50	Doug Rosfeld (Jr., 2)	64	Dave Catanzaro (So., 0)
RG	66	**Ken Biggs (Sr., 3)**	60	DeWayne Johnston (So.,0)
RT	72	Kirt Doolin (So., 1)	71	Andy Weinheimer (So., 1)
TE	87	Ashley Hunt (Jr., 2)	47	Jasen Isom (Sr., 2)
QB	7	**Deontey Kenner (Jr., 2)**	12	David Bertucci (Sr., 1)
SB	5	Tony Smikle (Jr., 2)	81	Tim Walker (So., 0)
TB	31	**DeMarco McCleskey (So.,1)**	33	Robert Cooper (Sr., 3)
WR	3	Tye Keith (Fr., 0)	80	Chris Archie (So., 1)

DEFENSE (1)

LE	91	Paul Stephens (So., 1)	58	Joe Hamilton (So., 1)
LT	90	Mario Monds (Jr., 0)	85	Dante Elliott (So., 1)
RT	97	Ben Piening (So., 1)	95	DeMarcus Billings (Fr., 0)
RE		Montrell Mitchell (Jr., 0)	51	Aaron Smith (Jr., 1)
LB	83	Antwan Peek (So., 1)	52	Eddie Johnson (Jr., 2)
LB	44	Kwesi Daniels (Sr., 1)	22	DeJuan Gossett (Jr., 2)
LB	39	Lewis Carter (So., 1)	59	Troy Evans (Jr., 1)
LC	24	Danny Adams (So., 1)	34	LaVar Glover (So., 1)
RC	8	Jeff Burrow (Sr., 3)	10	Bobby Fuller (Sr., 1)
SS	36	**Freddy Smith (Jr., 2)**	19	Aaron Butler (Jr., 0)
FS	9	Tinker Keck (Sr.,1)	42	Carlton Sykes (Sr., 1)

SPECIAL TEAMS

K	13	Joe Judge (Sr., 1)
P	14	Adam Wulfeck (So., 1)
KR	31	DeMarco McCleskey (So., 1)
PR	9	Tinker Keck (Sr., 1)

(#) Indicates number of returning starters
***BOLD** indicates returning starters*
NUMBER after class indicates letters won

Head Coach: Rick Minter — **1998 Record (C-USA): 2–9 (1–5)**
1999 Prediction: 8th C-USA — **Nippert Stadium (35,000)**

Ohio Bobcats

99

Ohio comes into the season without 69 percent of its rushing yards from last year. That's pretty much 69 percent of the entire offense for the Bobcats, who throw as often as Dennis Rodman repents. Hard-line practitioners of four-back formations, primarily the wishbone, Ohio is hankering to replace quarterback Kareem Wilson, the second-leading rusher in school history, and tailback Steveland Hoofkin, Ohio's No. 1 all-time rusher. The two combined for more than 2,100 yards and 24 touchdowns last year as Ohio was second in Division I-A in rushing but slipped to 5–6, 5–3 in the MAC. It was the Bobcats' first losing season since 1995.

Ohio SID

Raynald Ray

Ohio lost 19 seniors in all, but none more vital to the ground game, the pulse of the offense, than Wilson and Hoofkin. The Bobcats spent much of the spring auditioning replacements.

192.0 Combined rushing yards per game last season for Ohio quarterback Kareem Wilson and tailback Steveland Hoofkin, both of whom are gone.

The front-runner during spring drills was sophomore Dan Jordan, a rollout quarterback who's quite a bit slower than Wilson but is a more accurate thrower. Coach Jim Grobe is going to give junior David Murphy a long look there, too. Murphy has probably the most Wilson-like skills of any QB on the team but he's brittle, having missed much of the last two seasons with back problems.

The rest of the backfield is also up for grabs. Sophomore tailback Jamel Patterson had the inside track for Hoofkin's old spot after running for 177 yards on 46 carries last year, but may have lost it to a scatback option in freshman Chad Brinker. Junior Raynald Ray could also be switched here from his role as the slot back (or Z-back). If Ray moves to tailback, look for sophomore Mareion Royster to get a shot to start as the Z-back.

Fullback will come down to the better blocker among a group of candidates headed up by senior Joe Fondale and sophomore Chris Knaack, a transfer who started on Youngstown State's 1997 Division I-AA championship team.

Senior Derrick Jenkins will probably line up as the starting split end. Four-year starter Drew Dwyer is back at tight end.

Ohio must replace three starters on the offensive line. On the plus side, All-MAC center Mike Varone is one of the two linemen that return. The new candidates are a huge bunch, with sophomores Nick Glowacki and Erik Davis expected to hold down the guard slots with sophomore David Patton seeing most of the action at left tackle. Junior Zach Holt moves from center to guard to improve depth there.

Ohio's defense took hits from front to back. There's a new defensive coordinator in town, and Grobe is trying to find two new defensive linemen, two new linebackers and two new defensive backs.

Three-year starter John Kraus returns at one end after tallying 48 tackles last year; junior Art Adams, who had 30 tackles as a platoon player, gets the nod at the other end. Grobe spent much of the spring watching the battle for nose guard between Mike Fox and Lamar Martin.

Linebacker is the Bobcats' most critical position within their 3-4 scheme. Only one inside linebacker returns with experience, Mark Calgaro, fourth-leading tackler on the team last year with 87 stops, three for losses. Dave Swenson will have to fight off transfers Matt Spitler and Tom Weilbacher for the right to join Calgaro on the inside.

Leigh Barbour was a beast at outside linebacker last fall, totaling 96 tackles and being named second-team All-MAC. He sat out spring drills recovering from off-season knee surgery. The Bobcats are going to need him at full strength come the fall. Another likely starter, Greg Baskin, also missed spring ball after off-season shoulder surgery. The injuries gave Grobe a chance to look at Matt Weikert, Shawn Murphy and Jeff Staniszewski.

Donnie White proved capable in his first full season at starting cornerback. Kahieem Maxwell, a standout on special teams, and Arden Banks are the leading candidates to start as the other corner. The safeties have some pop — returnee David Walker was third on the team in tackles last year at free safety; Chris London was a playmaker last year while his main rival for time at strong safety, senior Ewane Nanji, is a three-year letterman.

Ohio's special teams were spotty last year, but punter Dave Zastudil was solid. Grobe is looking for a new placekicker.

Depth Chart

OFFENSE (4)

SE	10 Derrick Jenkins (Sr., 2)	83 Joe Mohler (Fr., 0)
LT	72 David Patton (So., 0)	66 Clete Hawk (So., 0)
LG	75 Nick Glowacki (So., 1)	96 Nick Daniel (Jr., 2)
C	**50 Mike Varone (Sr., 2)**	60 Erik Grahovac (Fr., 0)
RG	**62 Erik Davis (So., 1)**	74 Zach Holt (Jr., 2)
RT	56 Steve Gaydosz (Sr., 3)	67 Chris Jackson (Fr., 0)
TE	**86 Drew Dwyer (Sr., 3)**	80 Trendale Perkins (So., 1)
QB	6 Dan Jordan (So., 1)	10 Derrick Jenkins (Sr., 2)
FB	46 Joe Fondale (Sr., 3)	18 Chris Knaack (So., 0)
TB	5 Chad Brinker (Fr., 0)	20 Jamel patterson (So., 1)
FL	**47 Raynald Ray (Jr., 2)**	12 Mareion Royster (So., 1)

DEFENSE (6)

DE	**91 John Kraus (Sr., 3)**	99 Steve Collins (Sr., 3)
DT	97 Mike Fox (Jr., 1)	54 Lamar Martin (Fr., 0)
DE	98 Art Adams (Jr., 1)	94 Drew Dollmatsch (Jr., 0)
LB	**51 Leigh Barbour Sr., 3)**	49 Shawn Murphy (So., 0)
LB	**44 Mark Calgaro (Sr., 3)**	57 Matt Spitler (Jr., 0)
LB	48 David Swenson (Sr., 3)	33 Tom Weilbacher (Fr., 0)
LB	**43 Greg Baskin (So., 1)**	89 Chaz Hollins (Fr., 0)
CB	23 Arden Banks (So., 1)	21 Lance Fields (Sr., 2)
CB	**3 Donnie White (Jr., 2)**	2 Kahieem Maxwell (Sr., 2)
SS	22 Chris London (So., 1)	29 Ewane Nanji (Sr., 3)
FS	**27 David Walker (Sr., 3)**	24 Joe Sellers (Fr., 0)

SPECIAL TEAMS

K	70 Nick Manella (Fr., 0)
P	19 Dave Zastudil (So., 1)
KR	2 Kahieem Maxwell (Sr., 2)
PR	2 Kahieem Maxwell (Sr., 2)

(#) Indicates number of returning starters
***BOLD** indicates returning starters*
NUMBER after class indicates letters won

Head Coach: Jim Grobe — **1998 Record (MAC): 5-6 (5-3)**
1999 Prediction: 4th MAC East — **Peden Stadium (20,000)**

UTEP Miners

100

UTEP head football coach Charlie Bailey turns 59 this July. That's not exactly retirement age for folks like Joe Paterno or Bobby Bowden or John Robinson. But Bailey, who has done a nice job of reviving UTEP's program in recent years, thought seriously about hanging it up after the Miners finished a much-better-than-it-sounds 3–8 campaign in 1998.

Peter Brouillet

Paul Smith

Fortunately for UTEP fans, Bailey not only decided to put off retirement for another year, but he also signed a two-year contract extension.

With 12 returning starters, including first team All-WAC tight end Brian Natkin, defensive end Brian Young and placekicker Ricky Bishop, the Miners might just be ready to make a run at a winning season in 1999.

15,161 The enrollment at UTEP is 15,161, 36,839 less than the seating capacity at the Sun Bowl, UTEP's home field.

Rocky Perez has been a part-time starter each of the last two seasons at quarterback and engineered a big upset of BYU in 1997. Perez started two games last season, including the 30–13 win over Hawaii.

The Miners have good talent and depth at running back with halfback Paul Smith leading the way. Smith was 12th in the WAC in rushing a year ago with 660 yards despite playing with several nagging injuries. The 5'11", 238-pounder bench-presses over 400 pounds. Smith's backup, Javier Sanchez, is no slouch. He finished third in the WAC in punt returns in '98 with a 12.2-yard average.

The big question will be the status of senior fullback Elzie Johnson. Johnson suffered a dislocated hip in last year's win over San Jose State, the same type of injury that ended the career of Bo Jackson. However, Bailey says Johnson's rehab has gone well and he could play again this season.

Junior tight end Brian Natkin, a first team All-WAC choice, who had the second most receptions by a tight end in the nation as a sophomore returns. Bailey is also high on 6'4" sophomore wideout Lee Mays, who won the WAC indoor hurdles crown, and junior Allan Ray, who saw plenty of action last season.

The question mark on offense heading into 1999 is the line. Both starting tackles, including second-team All-WAC choice Alan Gray, must be replaced. And a third starter, left guard Jeff Seeton, sat out spring ball after undergoing shoulder surgery. Seeton and junior center Carey Clayton are both two-year starters, however, and senior guard Mike Pry and senior tackle Brent Hunt have been off-and-on starters over their careers. Tackle Jonathan Ruiz started the first nine games last season.

On paper the defensive front would appear to be a strength, although you would have a difficult time telling it from the stats. UTEP finished last in the 16-team WAC in total defense, allowing 444 yards per game. Still, two-time All-WAC defensive end Brian Young (104 tackles, 3.5 sacks) returns, as does honorable mention All-WAC defensive end Leif Larsen, a two-year starter who played with an injured knee the last half of last season. "Young should be a preseason All-American," Bailey says. "I think he's one of the better ones I've ever been associated with."

The big challenge will be finding a qualified starter at nose tackle. A pair of undersized sophomores, Bobby King (6'3", 260) and Fade Bouras (6'2", 245), will get first crack.

The Miners must replace two starters at linebacker. Bailey is expecting big years from junior Trey Merkens and senior Robert Weathers, who had 71 tackles and 2.5 sacks a year ago. Hal Stansbury started six games last season, but he has not shown the propensity for big plays. A couple of talented underclassmen, redshirt freshman Bubba Wiseman and sophomore Barry King, are expected to vie for starting jobs.

The secondary was not exactly a strength a year ago and Bailey must replace both starting corners, including Darius Ellison, who was third in the WAC in pass deflections (14).

Senior Nick Salinas, JC transfer Anthony Wadley and sophomore Crance Clemons will try to fill the void. Junior A.J. Sheppard and sophomore Eric Gibson likely will start at safety in a young secondary.

Ricky Bishop, first-team All-WAC, returns as a sophomore after making 15-of-20 field goals, as does one of the conference's top return men in Sanchez. Bailey is hoping for big improvement in the punting game from JC transfer Glenn Beard.

Depth Chart

OFFENSE (6)

SE	81 Allan Ray (Jr., 2)	3 Sherman Austin (Fr., 0)
LT	**75 Brent Hunt (Sr., 2)**	57 Ariel Famaligi (Fr., 0)
LG	**79 Jeff Seeton (Jr., 2)**	78 Mike Pry (Sr., 2)
C	**51 Carey Clayton (Jr., 2)**	67 Curtis Castle (Fr., 0)
RG	73 Lawrence Norman (So., 1)	53 Brad Davis (Sr., 1)
RT	**71 Jonathon Ruiz (Sr., 1)**	74 Keith Warren (So., 0)
TE	**87 Brian Natkin (Jr., 2)**	84 Clifford Johnston (Sr., 3)
QB	17 Rocky Perez (Jr., 2)	8 Jason Stuckey (Sr., 1)
FB	30 Joey Knapp (So., 1)	34 Scott Glasscock (Fr., 0)
HB	**27 Paul Smith (Sr., 3)**	21 Javier Sanchez (Sr., 3)
FL	7 Lee Mays (So., 1)	11 James Thompson (Sr., 1)

DEFENSE (6)

DE	**66 Brian Young (Sr., 3)**	37 Josh Randolph (So., 0)
DT	99 Bobby King (So., 1)	91 Fade Bouras (So., 0)
DE	**90 Leif Larsen (Sr., 3)**	58 Menson Holloway (Sr., 3)
LB	**43 Trey Merkens (Jr., 2)**	42 Jacob Boggs (Fr., 0)
LB	**35 Hal Stansbury (Sr., 3)**	98 Gabe Williams (Fr., 0)
LB	36 Barry King (So., 1)	47 Eric Wells (Sr., 2)
LB	**46 Robert Weathers (Sr., 1)**	25 Camar Jackson (Fr., 0)
CB	5 Nick Salinas (Sr., 1)	19 Anthony Wadley (Jr., 0)
CB	2 Crance Clemons (So., 1)	31 Chris Taylor (Jr., 1)
SS	**23 A.J. Sheppard (Jr., 2)**	41 Brian Walker (So., 1)
FS	1 Eric Gibson (So., 1)	48 Derek Walker (Jr., 2)

SPECIAL TEAMS

K	18 Ricky Bishop (Jr., 2)
P	38 Glenn Beard (Jr., 0)
KR	3 Sherman Austin (Fr., 0)
PR	21 Javier Sanchez (Sr., 3)

(#) Indicates number of returning starters
***BOLD** indicates returning starters*
NUMBER after class indicates letters won

Head Coach: Charlie Bailey — 1998 Record (WAC): 3–7 (3–4)
1999 Prediction: 6th WAC — Sun Bowl (52,000)

San Jose State Spartans

101

So far, it has been slow going for Dave Baldwin in his attempt to get the San Jose State program back on track.

The team has suffered through six straight losing seasons and Baldwin, who has an 8–15 record in his two years in the Bay Area, knows he's got to start picking up the pace if the Spartans are to contend in the WAC.

Don Liebig

Chris Kasteler

He has a young team, with only 19 seniors. And with a killer schedule, including trips to LSU, Colorado and TCU, he has to make sure his players don't give up on the season early.

30 The number of first-quarter points San Jose State has averaged all season in the first two years of Dave Baldwin's tenure.

The good news for Spartan fans is that San Jose State competed fairly well in WAC play last year, going 3–5 with wins over Rice and New Mexico. Can they build on that good fortune come late September when conference play begins? That will be the goal.

Last year, Baldwin employed five passers. This year, he'd prefer to have to use only one, preferably senior Chris Kasteler. And with Marcus Arroyo the only serious challenger, look for Kasteler to get most of the snaps.

The Spartans are trying to improve their running game, but until they do, any success will likely ride on Kasteler's arm. Diminutive Deonce Whitaker led the team in rushing, and will likely get the bulk of the work again. The hope is he'll have some help from juco transfer Stanley Joyner and Patrick Battle.

At receiver, it's all about diversity. Ten different Spartans caught 10 or more passes last year, and look for that trend to continue in hopes of freeing up Waking Bailey, the team's lone returning starter. Bailey caught 23 passes a year ago but found the end zone only once. Shawn Green averaged just under 16 yards a catch. Senior Donte Scarbrough has some big-play ability and averaged just under 15 yards a catch. A trio of tight ends — juniors Sean Brewer and Jesse Rogers and sophomore Kevin Michaelis — will vie for the starting spot.

With just one returning starter, Chris Fe'esago, Baldwin needed to revamp the line. And he did so by going the junior college route, getting Jeremy Dominguez, Roger Neadeau, Ryan Wadkowski and Erik Van Gaalen. They will be asked to step into the breach until the youngsters are ready to compete. At center, sophomore Bruno Contreras will be the likely starter, with redshirt Chris Evans backing him up. It'll be interesting to see where Fe'esago, a 6'3", 324-pound sophomore, winds up. He played both guard and tackle last year. The likely spot for Fe'esago is tackle, with sophomore Eric Bakkedahl getting some time opposite him.

When your defense is surrendering twice as many yards on the ground as your offense is producing, you have problems. And if San Jose State is going to get things turned around, it starts with stopping the run. Greg Brinson of Citrus College, Johnie Warren of San Bernardino Valley College and Bryan Yeager, a transfer from Rutgers, all figure to get a shot at trying to stop opposing running backs. If nothing else, they should push returnees Abdul-Salam Noah, Steve Kapphahn and Samson Sherrod for playing time, and that competition can only help matters.

Of the trio of incumbents, Sherrod had the best numbers, posting a team-high seven sacks out of the paltry 17 total sacks the team notched all year. Opponents completed 52 percent of their passes against the Spartans, so more pressure is critical. Edgar Nava was off to a great start but blew out his knee and redshirted. He'll be back and should contend for a starting spot at defensive end.

There's a good nucleus at linebacker with Jeff Wucinich, Josh Parry and Alfonso Moran. All three are active and aggressive — they combined to average 21 tackles a game — and should do well in the new scheme.

In the secondary, senior cornerback Chris Lawson has the most experience, having played all 12 games last year. Kariem McFarlin and Maurice Love also have seen time and they'll likely get first crack at starting. But don't be surprised if hometown freshman Demitris Starks gets a shot.

At safety, Travis Seaton, Kenny Sanchez and Anwar Johnson all have a shot at playing. Malakai Uhi played in nine games and his experience also puts him in the mix.

Tim Morgan will punt. Morgan is also a candidate, along with redshirt freshman Nick Gilliam, at placekicker. Whitaker remains the main kick return threat after averaging 24 yards per kickoff. He may also return punts.

Depth Chart

OFFENSE (4)

WR	**19**	**Waking Bailey (Jr., 2)**	3	Eric Ruhle (Sr., 1)
WR	6	Shawn Green (Jr., 2)	8	Casey LeBlanc (So., 1)
LT	**74**	**Chris Fe'esago (So., 1)**	72	Scott Vandygrift (Fr., 0)
LG	63	Roger Neadeau (Jr., 0)	77	Jose Gomez (So., 1)
C	64	Bruno Contreras (So., 1)	55	Chris Evans (Fr., 0)
RG	65	Erik Van Gaalen (Jr., 0)	77	Jose Gomez (So., 1)
RT	73	Eric Bakkedahl (So., 0)	75	Oscar Comeaux (Jr., 0)
TE	88	Sean Brewer (Jr., 1)	93	Kevin Michaelis (So., 1)
QB	**11**	**Chris Kasteler (Sr., 2)**	2	Marcus Arroyo (So., 1)
TB	**21**	**Deonce Whitaker (Jr., 1)**	32	Stanley Joyner (Jr., 0)
WR	5	Donte Scarbrough (Sr., 3)	17	Brian Foreman (Fr., 0)

DEFENSE (6)

DE	**92**	**Abdul-Salam Noah (Sr., 3)**		Greg Brinson (Jr., 0)
DT	**59**	**Steve Kapphahn (Sr., 1)**		Johnie Warren (Jr., 0)
DT	**56**	**Samson Sherrod (Sr., 3)**		Bryan Yeager (Jr., 0)
DE	54	Edgar Nava (Jr., 0)	66	David Coats (Jr., 2)
LB	**48**	**Josh Parry (Jr., 2)**	33	Ron-Jon Acuna (Sr., 1)
LB	**50**	**Alfonso Moran (Jr., 2)**	1	Amedeo Viola (Sr., 1)
LB	**41**	**Jeff Wucinich (Sr., 1)**	57	Tony Quintero (Jr., 2)
CB	9	Chris Lawson (Sr., 1)		Demitris Starks (Fr., 0)
CB	36	Kariem McFarlin (Sr., 1)	12	Maurice Love (Sr., 1)
SS	27	Anwar Johnson (So., 1)	34	Kenny Sanchez (Jr., 1)
FS	30	Travis Seaton (Jr., 2)	44	Malakai Uhi (Jr., 1)

SPECIAL TEAMS

K	49	Tim Morgan (Sr., 1)
P	49	Tim Morgan (Sr., 1)
KR	21	Deonce Whitaker (Jr., 1)
PR	21	Deonce Whitaker (Jr., 1)

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Head Coach: Dave Baldwin — **1998 Record (WAC): 4-8 (3-5)**
1999 Prediction: 7th WAC — **Spartan Stadium (31,218)**

Northern Illinois Huskies

102

The longest losing streak in major college football no longer resides in Dekalb, Ill. Northern Illinois knocked off Central Michigan 16–6 on Oct. 17 of last year to snap a 23-game skid. Then the Huskies actually started a winning streak, beating Eastern Michigan on the road the next week. NIU lost its next four games to finish at 2–9 (2–6 in the MAC).

Scott Walstrom

Lamain Rucker

The quarterback situation can only rebound. Chris Finlen, the best pure passer in the bunch, was slated to start 1998 but broke his collarbone at the final two-a-day practice. Frisman Jackson, an elusive, more option-styled quarterback, stepped in for three games but was knocked out when he had emergency surgery on his lower leg. The next three QBs on the depth chart were either injured or academically ineligible. So quarterback No. 6, freshman walk-on Craig Harmon, was thrown into the lineup for the last half of the year. He was clearly overmatched, but the Huskies still won two games with him in the lineup. NIU averaged just 119.5 passing yards per game with five touchdowns and 15 interceptions, for a MAC-worst 85.5 pass efficiency rating.

85.5 Northern Illinois' team passing effiency last year, dead last in the MAC. The Huskies had only five passing touchdowns all year.

Finlen should win the starting job, but Novak is bringing the sophomore back gingerly.

NIU's running game appears less fragile. Five tailbacks who've lettered return, with junior Bill Andrews getting the first crack as the primary carrier. Andrews was second on the team last year in carries (133) and yards (476) and tied for the team lead in touchdowns (four). Junior Ivory Bryant (6-foot, 210 pounds) was the workhorse of the group last year, running for team-highs of 655 yards on 187 carries. Senior fullback Mike Stack is a three-year letterman and a punishing blocker at 6'2", 253 pounds.

The Huskies have to find a replacement for Deon Mitchell, their all-time leader in all-purpose yards, kickoff returns and kickoff return yardage. Mitchell had 39 catches for 567 yards last season. Junior flanker Justin McCareins, the team's leading receiver last year (54 catches for 486 yards and five touchdowns), is rangy at 6'1", 200, but lacks consistent big-play potential. Junior Darrell Hill, who last year had 12 catches for 110 yards as NIU's third receiver, will take over Mitchell's old slot and is also expected to be featured as the new kickoff return man.

Senior Bob Lesher has moved from defensive end to tight end, where he'll split time with Matt Dunker and Joey Reed. The offensive line didn't get much of a chance to jell during spring ball with John Pedersen (right guard) and Matt Cockrum (left guard) out with injuries. Three projected starters haven't even lettered yet, and two redshirt freshmen, Greg Clemens and Tim Vincent, will battle to win the starting left tackle slot. The other tackle, junior Ryan Diem (6'7", 325), is an All-MAC candidate. Junior McAllister Collins has been moved from tackle to center in case incumbent Kyle Jakubek, who missed spring ball, isn't ready by the fall.

With seven starters back, a step up by the defense might help NIU turn the corner. One side of the defensive line shapes up as one of the league's best with end Lewis Miskowicz (eight tackles for loss, two sacks) and tackle Lamain Rucker, who as a sophomore last year was third on the team in tackles (79) and had nine stops behind the line of scrimmage.

Linebacker Cameron Saulsby had 61 tackles, six for losses, as a part-time starter last year. He was named the team's Most Improved Player in 1998.

Junior Ken Selover made a strong transition to middle linebacker, where his 86 tackles were second on the team. Jon Pendergrass and Rocky Newton are the top contenders to start as the other outside linebacker.

NIU returns three starters in the secondary. The Huskies will miss cornerback Duane Hawthorne, who had a team-high four interceptions last year, but at the other corner, junior Benji Peacock is back. Peacock broke up four passes and forced a league-high five fumbles. Senior strong safety Donnovan Carter led the team in tackles with 124. Free safety Jermaine Hampton was another factor in the backfield, causing two fumbles and deflecting five passes.

Senior punter Kent Baker is back. Brian Grider is the new kicker. Hill and Kandras Bledsoe have big shoes to fill in the kick return game with Mitchell gone, while McCareins is slated to run back punts.

Depth Chart

OFFENSE (6)

SE	14 Darrell Hill (Jr., 1)	15 Kandras Bledsoe (Fr., 0)
LT	62 Greg Clemens (Fr., 0)	73 Tim Vincent (Fr., 0)
LG	75 Tom Pacini (Sr., 0)	79 Rob Wells (Fr., 0)
C	**76 McAllister Collins (Jr., 2)**	66 Steve McKinnes (Fr., 0)
RG	70 Mike Newman (Jr., 0)	**68 John Pedersen (So., 1)**
RT	**74 Ryan Diem (Jr., 2)**	78 Tom Kolaskey (So., 0)
TE	86 Matt Dunker (Fr., 0)	87 Bob Lesher (Sr., 3)
QB	19 Chris Finlen (So., 1)	12 Frisman Jackson (So., 1)
FB	**40 Mike Stack (Sr., 3)**	39 Lou Sponsel (Jr., 2)
RB	4 **Bill Andrews (Jr., 1)**	38 Ivory Bryant (Jr., 2)
FL	**85 Justin McCareins (Jr., 2)**	10 Brendan Doyle (Jr., 1)

DEFENSE (7)

DE	**92 Lewis Miskowicz (Jr., 2)**	90 Rasche Hill (Jr., 2)
DT	**99 Lamain Rucker (Jr., 1)**	51 Eric Didesch (Fr., 0)
DT	95 Darian Tate (Jr., 1)	97 Anon Miller (Sr., 1)
DE	35 Glen Bloodsaw (Sr., 3)	57 Cory Sovine (So., 1)
LB	**44 Cameron Saulsby (Jr., 2)**	46 Ryan Laurenti (So., 1)
LB	**42 Kevin Selover (Jr., 2)**	53 Trent Clemen (So., 1)
LB	5 Jon Pendergrass (So., 0)	20 Rocky Newton (Jr., 2)
CB	27 Torrence Andrews (So., 1)	31 Chauncy O'Neal (Jr., 1)
CB	**3 Benji Peacock (Jr., 1)**	1 Buster Sampson (Sr., 2)
SS	**2 Donnavan Carter (Sr., 2)**	24 Joe Hightower (Fr., 0)
FS	**25 Jermaine Hampton (Jr., 1)**	37 Justin Dole (Fr., 0)

SPECIAL TEAMS

K	6 Brian Grider (Fr., 0)
P	18 Kent Baker (Sr., 3)
KR	14 Darrell Hill (Jr., 1)
PR	85 Justin McCareins (Jr., 2)

(#) Indicates number of returning starters
***BOLD** indicates returning starters*
NUMBER after class indicates letters won

Head Coach: Joe Novak — **1998 Record (MAC): 2-9 (2-6)**
1999 Prediction: 5th MAC West — **Huskie Stadium (31,000)**

North Texas Eagles

103

One of the stranger stories last season, the Eagles are again faced with a familiar question: Who will play quarterback?

Mean Green backers in Denton joke about the school's reputation as the antithesis of "Quarterback U." In its three seasons in the Big West, the Eagles have never played under one consistent quarterback. An unpredictable shuffle of moderately talented quarterbacks was former coach Matt Simon's shortcoming and is now second-year coach Darrell Dickey's measuring stick.

Rick Yates

Corbin Montgomery

Consider how bad things got by this statement in the North Texas' spring outlook guide: "Considering that UNT entered last season with just one player (LaDarrin McLane) who had ever played a down of college football at the quarterback spot, things are looking up in 1999."

32.6 Broderick McGrew led the nation in yards per kickoff return last season. He had a 100-yard return against Utah State, a 64-yard return against Kansas and a 46-yard return against Houston.

Yikes. Oh yeah, UNT's non-conference schedule includes LSU, TCU and Texas Tech all on the road.

No question Dickey has a major challenge, not only on the field, but with a passive fan base. Let's not forget he loses four offensive linemen, including all-conference center Phillip Armour. He loses six offensive starters.

In 1998, North Texas found itself in a familiar position: last in the Big West in total offense. Even so, the Eagles somehow managed to contend for the Big West title, finishing second at 3–2 with a win in its finale, and 3–8 overall.

But back to the quarterback. Dickey went through his second spring without his most experienced quarterback healthy to practice. Jason Attaway won the starting job a year ago, more by default than productivity, but he did show improvement as the year moved on. However he suffered a season-ending knee injury in Week 8. Under Simon, Attaway, who grew up in a small town15 minutes north of UNT's home in Denton, had been moved to linebacker with no foreseeable future playing either position in a game.

Attaway beat out senior third-stringer Chase Corley in the spring. The x-factor is 6'7", 230-pound Bryan Lucas. Lucas sat out after transferring from NAIA Azusa Pacific, where he threw for 2,316 yards with 18 touchdowns and only five interceptions in a span that covered 14 games in two seasons. He also played on the Azusa basketball team.

A bright spot on offense is the return of tailback Ja'Quay Wilburn. Small, quick and compact, Wilburn (5'10", 188) rushed for 501 yards in the last three games of 1998.

At receiver, speedy Broderick McGrew should be "the man." He's coming off his best season (26 receptions for 393 yards, one TD) and led the nation in kickoff returns with a 32.6-yard average. McClane, the one-time only experienced quarterback returning, is trying his hand at wide receiver. If he can make the adjustment to a position he played with success in high school, it would give the Eagles a speedy duo on both sides. It would also help a shallow depth chart.

Senior Vince Patterson is the team's only returning starter on the offensive line. Andrew Lott and David Morgan have started and will be counted on to fill spots. UNT is helped out by the signing of three junior college transfers: Josh Kay, Marlon Lee and Ryan Lonergan.

The Eagles finished fifth in total defense (416.9) in the Big West. The lone player with experience on the defensive line is Corbin Montgomery at one of the end spots. The senior has 15 sacks in 20 games. Seniors Chance Adair and Darrell Williams combined for just 14 tackles and will battle for a starting job, while junior Derek Gordon, sophomore Ron Paris and junior Jeff Harris are challenging at the other end.

Linebacker should be strong again with brothers Fred and Corry Pertile, now juniors. Returning starter Jeff Rodgers rounds out the unit. The trio totaled 236 tackles, 13 for loss and three sacks.

The secondary will revolve around senior cornerback Detrion Woodson and senior free safety Ramone Archie. Senior Kendrick Sapp and junior Lawrence Ellis started all 11 games between them.

Two-time all-conference selection John Baker will punt. Dan Walker is the new kicker replacing Garret Courtney.

Depth Chart

OFFENSE (5)

SE	12	LaDarrin McLane (Jr., 2)	81	Brent DeGroot (So., 0)
LT	74	Marlon Lee (Jr., 0)	68	Matt Coon (Fr., 0)
LG	60	Josh Kay (Jr., 0)	59	Mike Coon (Fr., 0)
C	64	Andrew Lott (Jr., 1)	63	Ryan Lonergan (Jr., 0)
RG	62	David Morgan (Jr., 2)	69	Mark Ketchum (So., 0)
RT	**57**	**Vince Patterson (Sr., 3)**	76	J.R. Randle (Fr., 0)
TE	**84**	**Ron Sterling (Sr., 1)**	4	Bryan Lucas (Jr., 0)
QB	**18**	**Jason Attaway (Sr.,2)**	11	Chase Corley (Sr., 1)
FB	33	Dustin Dean (So., 1)	36	Robert Whitehead (So., 1)
TB	**34**	**Ja'Quay Wilburn (Jr., 2)**	3	Michael Hickmon (Fr., 0)
FL	**1**	**Broderick McGrew (Sr., 3)**	20	Jet Carriker (So., 0)

DEFENSE (8)

DE	**48**	**Corbin Montgomery (Sr., 2)**	49	Jeff Harris (Jr., 2)
DT	91	Chance Adair (Sr., 3)	61	Andre Phillips (Sr., 3)
DT	**79**	**Zeb Cornist (Jr., 1)**	50	Donovan Wright (Fr., 0)
DE	46	Derek Gordon (Jr., 1)	56	Ron Paris (So., 1)
LB	**52**	**Jeff Rodgers (Jr., 2)**	47	Darron Hester (Sr., 1)
LB	**43**	**Fred Pertile (Jr., 2)**	**44**	**Corry Pertile (Jr., 2)**
LB	90	Brad Kassell (So., 1)	41	Chris Barber (Fr., 0)
CB	**8**	**Kendrick Sapp (Sr., 3)**	26	Corey Watkins (So., 1)
CB	**7**	**Detrion Woodson (Sr., 3)**	2	Lawrence Ellis (Jr., 2)
SS	5	Heath Moody (Jr., 2)	35	Starsky Banks (Sr., 3)
FS	**25**	**Ramone Archie (Sr., 1)**	32	Tony Gates (Sr., 2)

SPECIAL TEAMS

K	29	Jason Ball (Jr., 0)
P	24	John Baker (Jr, 1)
KR	1	Broderick McGrew (Sr., 3)
PR	5	Heath Moody (Jr., 2)

(#) Indicates number of returning starters
***BOLD** indicates returning starters*
NUMBER after class indicates letters won

Head Coach: Darrell Dickey **1998 Record (Big West): 3-8 (3-2)**
1999 Prediction: 5th Big West **Fouts Field (30,500)**

New Mexico State Aggies

104

The Aggies will be without four-time 1,000-yard rusher Denvis Manns, but Tony Samuel, a longtime assistant at Nebraska, has the Aggies believing they can compete. With 16 starters back, New Mexico State could be considered a contender for the Humanitarian Bowl for the first time. In the Big West, where parity is the rule, anything is possible. Las Cruces, once thought of as one of the worst places to recruit — right up there with Manhattan, Kan. — is now home to the Big West's top-rated recruiting class, according to 1999 Rivalnet Recruiting Power Ranking.

New Mexico State SID

Ty Houghtaling

"We're excited about this team," Samuel says as he opens spring camp. "It is a great working group. We have a lot of returnees, and this team has a great work ethic so far this year."

> Everyone's well aware of the walk-on program at Nebraska, but coach Tony Samuel has a blossoming walk-on program at New Mexico State. As many as seven former walk-ons could start this for the Aggies season.

Like everyone else in the Big West, the non-conference schedule is brutality on the road. The Aggies play four of their first five games away from home, at New Mexico, at UTEP, at Arizona State and at Colorado State. They will play just four home games, including key conference matchups against Idaho and Nevada.

The main concern is replacing Manns, the school's all-time leading rusher. The front-runner to win the I-back position is second-year returnee Kenton Keith. Former I-back and quarterback Corey Lucas will likely start at fullback. At the offensive controls is two-year starter Ty Houghtaling (6'2", 203), who threw for 1,820 yards last year and has started every game the last two seasons. Senior

The backfield should be abetted nicely by an experienced, but shallow, offensive line that returns four starters. In junior center Matt Hancock, senior tackle Jason Berger and senior guard George Hudson, the Aggies boast All-Big West honorees. That line was the foundation of the Aggies' sudden rise to offensive power. The Power-I pumped out 462.2 yards a game, good for second in the conference and 13th in the nation, moving the football in an impressive, yet revised Big Red style.

Junior tackle Mick Rodemeyer started eight games before suffering an ankle injury, but is back, and Tony Wragge will start at right guard as a sophomore. New Mexico State used the spring to work on creating depth with junior Eric Rivas at tackle and junior Ryan Herbon at center. Pushing for playing time at guard are redshirt freshman Shalimar Jackson and junior Casey Gray , with junior Trevis Beckworth challenging at tackle.

All-Big West split end Ryan Shaw headlines a talented but thin receiving corps. Coaches hope the senior starts the '99 season like he finished 1998, catching nine touchdown passes in the final five games to break the school's single-season record for touchdowns with 13. Two more seniors complement Shaw. A.T. Holloway (5'7", 172) and Robert Garth (6'3", 210), an all-conference candidate who caught 32 passes for 466 yards, are expected to have solid seasons.

Veteran senior receiver Mike Wakefield could see more time coming out of the backfield as the Aggies fine-tune their offense. Injuries to tight ends Dustin Guinn (6'6", 215) and Chad Martin (6'5", 273) made them unavailable during the spring and left that position unsettled.

New Mexico State comes off a season in which it allowed 465.6 yards a game. For better or worse, the Aggies return four starters on the defensive line. Senior tackle Tim Engelhardt (6'2", 278), a two-time All-Big West honoree and Outland Trophy candidate, will move to nose guard and anchor the line. He will be joined by senior Tye Fraembs and ends Mike Boganowski and Lyn Perryman.

At linebacker, smallish sophomore D'Wayne Taylor (6'0", 192), the team's leading returning tackler, and senior Mike Cunningham will team up with senior Raul Anaya.

Junior cornerback Jascon Willis leads the secondary after a strong season. Melvin McClendon, who missed spring with an injury, should be ready at the other corner.

Both of the Aggies' kickers return: first-team all-conference punter Andy Kohl and placeckicker Nick Cecava, who made 13 of 14 field goals.

Depth Chart

OFFENSE (7)

SE	**12**	**Ryan Shaw (Sr., 3)**	2	A.T. Holloway (Sr., 3)
LT	**73**	**Mick Rodemeyer (Jr., 1)**	55	Eric Rivas (Jr., 2)
LG	**52**	**George Hudson (Sr., 3)**	75	Shalimar Jackson (Fr., 0)
C	**70**	**Matt Hancock (Jr., 2)**	54	Ryan Herbon (Jr., 2)
RG	65	Tony Wragge (So., 1)	64	Casey Gray (Jr., 2)
RT	**62**	**Jason Berger (Sr., 3)**	71	Trevis Beckworth (Jr., 2)
TE	86	Marcellus McCray (Jr., 2)	**83**	**Dustin Guinn (Sr., 3)**
QB	**3**	**Ty Houghtaling (Sr., 3)**	17	K.C. Enzminger (So., 1)
FB	35	Corey Lucas (Sr., 1)	36	Kermit Okamura (Fr., 0)
TB	20	Kenton Keith (So., 1)	27	Mike Wakefield (Sr., 1)
FL	10	Robert Garth (Sr., 1)	82	Michael Miller (Jr., 0)

DEFENSE (9)

DE	**42**	**Lyn Perryman (Jr., 2)**	92	Brad Frey (So., 1)
DT	**94**	**Tim Engelhardt (Sr., 3)**	53	Ira Ross (Jr., 0)
DT	**96**	**Tye Fraembs (Sr., 3)**	30	Joe Hankins (Sr., 1)
DE	**80**	**Mike Boganowski (Jr., 2)**	93	Rashaad Williams (Jr., 2)
LB	**43**	**D'Wayne Taylor (So., 1)**	29	Terry Rother (So., 1)
LB	**46**	**Mike Cunningham (Sr., 1)**	45	Waylon Waters (Sr., 2)
LB	25	Raul Anaya (Sr., 1)	41	Jamar Lawrence (So., 1)
CB	**19**	**Melvin McClendon (Sr., 1)**	6	Tony Lukins (So., 1)
CB	**1**	**Jascon Willis (Jr., 2)**	23	Isaac Johnson (Jr., 0)
SS	**39**	**Marsey Hawley (Jr., 2)**	8	Marcus Woods (Sr., 1)
FS	21	Donald Malloy (Jr., 1)	9	Frank Linden (Jr., 0)

SPECIAL TEAMS

K	90	Nick Cecava (Sr., 2)
P	88	Andy Kohl (Jr., 2)
KR	27	Mike Wakefield (Sr., 1)
PR	2	A.T. Holloway (Sr., 3)

(#) Indicates number of returning starters
***BOLD** indicates returning starters*
NUMBER after class indicates letters won

Head Coach: Tony Samuel | **1998 Record (Big West): 3–8 (1–4)**
1999 Prediction: 6th Big West | **Aggie Memorial Stadium (30,343)**

Akron Zips

105

It looked like the Zips were poised for a breakthrough. Akron was 3–2 (2–1) to start last season and had picked up road wins over Temple and Kent. After a loss at Ohio, the Zips blew a 17–14 lead with three minutes to go against Toledo and fell 24–17. Against Central Michigan the following week, the Zips blew a 27–14 fourth-quarter lead and lost 28–27. Then the wheels came off with a 58–21 loss at Bowling Green.

M. Haritan

James Washington

Akron ended up 4–7, 2–6 in the league, the most respectable team fielded by coach Lee Owens in four years at the school.

"We need to learn to win, and to perform in pressure situations," says Owens, who has a 12–32 mark in four years with the Zips.

148 Quarterback James Washington's completions in 1998, a new Akron single-season record.

Forty-nine lettermen return from last year, including five starters on offense and six on defense, but the schedule isn't kind. Akron opens at Penn State and later visits Navy and Miami. The signs are there for a turnaround, but in all likelihood, the Zips are still a couple of years away.

Owens likes what he's seen at quarterback, where junior James "Butchie" Washington returns. Washington broke 12 school records last season, throwing for 1,958 yards and eight touchdowns. A mobile runner with a strong arm, Washington finished sixth in the MAC in total offense and had five games in which he accounted for 200 yards or more.

"The ceiling is pretty high for Butchie," Owens says. "He can get a whole lot better."

The featured back will be new. Leading rusher Greg Lomax (861 yards, 13 TDs) and No. 2 tailback Mike Lagasse completed their eligibility, leaving the Zips a pool of untested young talent. Tony McCray, Bo Hunter and Jimmie Gray combined for just 71 carries last year. Fullback Raschi Culler will provide some stability as a senior leader, lead blocker and ball-carrier.

Junior Lavel Bailey emerged as Washington's favorite target last year, finishing with team highs in receptions (41) and yards (558). Jake Schifino, who started two of the last three games last season, is the top candidate to start as the other receiver. Schifino averaged 15.6 yards per catch. Last year's No. 2 receiver, Jon Eaton, has been moved to free safety. Tight end Chuck Webb is gone, but sophomore Tim Ritley could slip into the void.

The Zips are breaking in two new linemen, jumbo junior Joe Trudeau (6'8", 300) and sophomore center Scott Smith (6'4", 275). Jeff Grzeskowiak (6'5", 310) is a budding star at strong-side tackle.

Akron's defense ought to improve after spending a year getting used to a new "50" scheme in 1998. Akron's total defensive statistics were solid, but the fine print wasn't as kind. The Zips surrendered 13 passing TDs with only four interceptions and gave up the third-highest rushing average per game in the MAC (197.5 yards), and opponents' 25 rushing touchdowns were the second-most given up.

The defensive line, a young group last year, took its fair share of lumps but should emerge bettered. Ade Edwards, a 6'4", 255-pound end, is an all-conference candidate who finished with 21 tackles, five for loss. Tackle Ron Smith and nose guard Jermaine Williams had 3½ sacks and 12 tackles for losses between them. Jacob Thompson or Jason Wiggins should emerge as the other end.

Linebacker James Cochran (51 tackles in nine games) should be back roaming the middle of the field. He'll be pushed by talented redshirt freshman Cedric Golphin. At outside linebacker, George Cameron was everywhere in '98, collecting 66 tackles, seven for losses, breaking up three passes and recovering two fumbles.

The secondary is undergoing a major overhaul. Nate Johnson has moved from linebacker to strong safety to replace the departed Andre McCray. Johnson was second on the team in tackles last year with 67. Eaton moves from wide receiver to the free safety slot, where George Germany is gone after leading the Zips in tackles with 97. Juco transfer Morgan Russell will immediately contend for playing time. Rich Reliford (eight passes defended) is penciled in at one corner while Russell and Dwight Smith vie for the other.

Placekicker Zac Derr showed good range in '98, hitting 4-of-6 field goals from 40-to-49 yards out. Akron's going to need him to hit better than the 9-of-15 he hit overall, though. Mike Delaney is a first-year punter. Dwight Smith's 22.4-yard kickoff return average was seventh in the MAC.

Depth Chart

OFFENSE (5)

SE	41 Jake Schifino (So., 1)	22 Nevara Smith (Jr., 2)
LT	79 Joe Trudeau (Jr., 2)	64 Steve Hale (Sr., 3)
LG	**64 Steve Hale (Sr., 3)**	62 Brock Knisely (Sr., 3)
C	50 Scott Smith (So., 1)	66 Paul Salvino (So., 0)
RG	**60 Dan Wessman (Sr., 3)**	65 George Harris (So., 1)
RT	72 Jeff Grzeskowiak (So., 1)	73 Paul Ondrusek (So., 1)
TE	82 Tim Ritley (So., 1)	84 Jeremy Connor (Jr., 2)
QB	**1 James Washington (Jr., 2)**	18 Greg Gromek (Sr., 3)
FB	**45 Raschi Culler (Sr., 1)**	44 Tony McCray (Jr., 1)
RB	33 Bo Hunter (Sr., 2)	25 Jimmie Gray (Jr., 1)
FL	**88 Lavel Bailey (Jr., 2)**	8 Gregg Peugeot (Sr., 3)

DEFENSE (6)

LE	**74 Ade Edwards (Jr., 1)**	99 Aaron Brown (So., 0)
T	**95 Ron Smith (Sr., 3)**	59 Chris Smith (So., 1)
NG	**77 Jermaine Williams (Jr., 1)**	97 Jamie O'Neill (Jr., 1)
RE	91 Jason Wiggins (Jr., 1)	75 Jacob Thompson (Jr., 0)
LB	53 Derek Wilborn (Jr.,"2)	48 Ray Pung (Sr., 1)
LB	**7 George Cameron (Sr., 3)**	49 Louis Mackey (Sr., 1)
LB	**5 James Cochran (Sr., 1)**	40 Cedric Golphin (Fr., 0)
LC	15 Dwight Smith (Jr., 2)	4 Morgan Russell (Jr., 0)
RC	**30 Rich Reliford (Jr., 2)**	24 Rickie Coble (So., 1)
SS	34 Nate Johnson (Sr., 2)	20 Mike Hughes (Jr., 2)
FS	16 Jon Eaton (Sr., 3)	3 Mike Young (So., 1)

SPECIAL TEAMS

K	14 Zac Derr (So., 1)
P	87 Mike Delaney (So., 0)
KR	15 Dwight Smith (Jr., 2)
PR	3 Mike Young (So., 1)

(#) Indicates number of returning starters
***BOLD** indicates returning starters*
NUMBER after class indicates letters won

Head Coach: Lee Owens — **1998 Record (MAC): 4–7 (2–6)**
1999 Prediction: 5th MAC East — **Rubber Bowl (35,202)**

Arkansas State Indians

106

Arkansas State is back in the Big West, but it's hard to tell by the looks of it. When much of the Big West split for the WAC, Arkansas State had nowhere to go and settled for independence, which led to brutal scheduling and not much fun in Jonesboro. So they're back in the revised Big West for lack of anything better, and the Big West

Steve Bridges

Lamont Zachery

is back with Arkansas State for the time being for, well, lack of anything better. The Big West, desparate for a seventh football program to help its scheduling woes, has long claimed it wants no part of doing business this far east and will not admit the remaining sports at ASU into the conference. ASU is a member of the Sun Belt Conference in all other sports.

12 Arkansas State lost just 12 seniors from last year's squad, good news for a team that went 4–8.

Third-year head coach Joe Hollis, the longtime Ohio State offensive coordinator, is another first-time head coach to take a job where the odds are stacked high — and not in his favor. To no one's surprise, his teams have alternated between absorbing good old-fashioned whippings and hard-nosed, but undermanned efforts against the bigger boys. In getting a taste of Big West-style football in 1998, the Indians split. They beat New Mexico State 34–31 in overtime and were trounced by Idaho 52–14. By the looks of it, Arkansas State is the perfect fit.

No one will accuse returning junior quarterback Cleo Lemon (6'2", 230) of not being exciting. A starting quarterback since taking over five games into his freshman season, Lemon became the first ASU quarterback to throw for more than 400 yards in a game (403 against the Big West's New Mexico State). He threw for 2,721 yards and 14 touchdowns, completing 47.3 percent of his passes.

The offensive line is bolstered by senior left tackle Patrick Birdwell (6'4", 282), junior left guard Jamie Pond (6'3", 208), junior center Jack Wright (6'1", 270), senior right guard Solomon Thomas (6'4", 280) and right tackle Garrick Jones (6'4", 303). Others to watch are all sophomores and freshmen.

ASU is hopeful its running back tandem of senior Lamont Zachery (5'9", 185) and sophomore Jonathan Adams (6'0", 222) will have a breakout year. Zachery rushed for 558 yards and nine touchdowns, while Adams gained 317 yards. Zachery, known as the "Lodi Flash," is 10th on the ASU all-time rushing list.

School record-holding wide receiver Lennie Johnson has been lost to graduation. Top returning receiver Robert Kilow (29 receptions and 661 yards in nine games) is back after breaking his collarbone late last season. He returns with J.J. Washington, who caught 28 passes for 387 yards. Carlos McNeary and Kevin Woods could break through as impact receivers.

A defense that had its problems last year, allowing 32.1 points a game, will rely on new starters across the line in its newly installed 3-4 defense. Senior MaQuonzie Thomas (6'2", 260) is the most experienced hand and tallied four sacks and 40 tackles last season. He is coming off his finest season as a reserve and will be counted on at one of the ends.

Senior Duane Alvin (6'3", 271) put on 20 pounds during the off-season and will likely start at the other end. Senior Lance Miller (5'11", 265) will start at nose guard.

Linebacker is where the Indians should thrive. All four starters return, including senior Michael Bailey (5'11", 212), who had 90 tackles, at an outside spot. Senior Andy Henault had 69 tackles and junior Segun Ajigbeda (6'2", 232) had 62 on the inside. Reginald Cooley fills the fourth spot after making the transition from all-America juco safety to outside linebacker. He is fast and skilled both in coverage and against the run, and notched six sacks last fall.

The secondary will be a patchwork of mostly inexperienced players. Junior strong safety Sean Mitchell (5'9", 190), the most experienced of the group, led the team in tackles with 126, a nice honor for Mitchell but something coach Hollis hopes changes quickly. Junior Travis Ducking (5'11", 193), who had two interceptions, returns at free safety, and junior Kishan Cotton and first-time starter Herman Hartman will man the corners.

Ryan Smith is back to punt, and the Indians expect big things from new placekicker Nick Gatto, a junior college transfer known for booming 50-plus-yard field goals.

Depth Chart

OFFENSE (8)

WR	**22 J.J. Washington (Sr., 3)**	24 Carlos McNeary (So., 1)
LT	63 Patrick Birdwell (Sr., 2)	74 Garry Johnson (So., 0)
LG	**73 Jamie Pond (Jr., 2)**	79 John Crossley (Fr., 0)
C	50 Jack Wright (Jr., 2)	65 Jesse Duncan (So., 1)
RG	**55 Solomon Thomas (Sr., 1)**	**69 Joe O'Bar (Jr., 2)**
RT	**68 Garrick Jones (So., 1)**	75 Bobby Ginder (Jr., 2)
TE	**87 Ron Teat (Sr., 3)**	89 Anwar Cooper (Jr., 2)
QB	**12 Cleo Lemon (Jr., 2)**	11 Andy Shatley (So., 1)
FB	**39 Jacquis Walker (Jr., 2)**	41 Jason Allcorn (Sr., 3)
RB	32 Lamont Zachery (Sr., 3)	20 Jonathan Adams (So., 1)
WR	2 Robert Kilow (Jr., 1)	3 Kevin Woods (Jr., 1)

DEFENSE (7)

DE	76 MaQuonzie Thomas (Sr., 3)	54 Peter Hardy (Fr., 0)
NG	96 Lance Miller (Sr., 2)	64 Chad Crader (Jr., 1)
DE	99 Duane Alvin (Sr., 1)	93 Erik Kellum (So., 0)
LB	**7 Reginald Cooley (Sr., 1)**	42 Neal Myers (Fr., 0)
LB	**36 Michael Bailey (Sr., 1)**	46 LeMarcus Harris (Jr., 2)
LB	**47 Segun Ajigbeda (Jr., 2)**	57 Russell Seaton (Jr., 2)
LB	**40 Andy Henault (Sr., 1)**	34 Scott Miller (Sr., 1)
CB	4 Herman Hartman (So., 1)	21 Hanis Bowen (Jr., 0)
CB	**1 Kishan Cotton (Jr., 2)**	14 Keith Headley (So., 1)
SS	**8 Sean Mitchell (Jr., 2)**	9 Terrance Fuller (So., 1)
FS	**30 Travis Ducking (Jr., 2)**	6 Denishio Blanchett (Sr., 3)

SPECIAL TEAMS

K	16 Nick Gatto (Jr., 0)
P	17 Ryan Smith (Sr., 1)
KR	20 Jonathan Adams (So., 1)
PR	22 J.J. Washington (Sr., 3)

(#) Indicates number of returning starters
***BOLD** indicates returning starters*
NUMBER after class indicates letters won

Head Coach: Joe Hollis — **1998 Record (Independent): 4–8**
1999 Prediction: 7th Big West — **Indian Stadium (33,410)**

Hawaii Rainbow Warriors 107

On the surface, it may seem like a return to paradise for June Jones. But coming back to one's alma mater is rarely without its challenges. And boy, does Jones have a challenge on his hands.

He inherits an absolute mess of a program, one which has lost a nation-leading 18 in a row, including an 0–12 disaster a year ago.

Peter Brouillet

Dan Robinson

And not only has Hawaii lost on the field, but it has also been losing the top players on the Islands to mainland schools. And for the Rainbow Warriors to be successful, that trend must end.

2 Quincy LeJay's total interception count for 1998. But while he didn't have lot of picks, he made the ones he did snag count. LeJay averaged 45 yards per return, including a 49-yard runback against Utah.

Hawaii signed only one quarterback, Mike Harrison of Mayfair (Calif.) High. That means Jones will likely let Dan Robinson take the majority of the snaps. Robinson's numbers reflected the failure of the West Coast offense — 46 percent completion rate, 12 interceptions and just 11 touchdowns. Obviously, a spring spent working with Jones can only help him.

Don't be surprised if Jones opts to put a heavy emphasis on running the ball to try and take some of the pressure off his quarterback. Hawaii suffered a blow it couldn't afford when junior Charles Tharp, who averaged just under five yards a carry, quit the team in the spring, leaving Jones scrambling a bit to fill his backfield. Fullback Avion Weaver had just 36 carries but averaged 4.5 yards each time he got it. True freshman Andrew Niumata (6'2", 210 pounds) is the biggest back in the program and may get an opportunity right away.

Jones signed five receivers, an indication Hawaii won't entirely sit on the ball. Dwight Carter had a pretty good year, averaging 14 yards a catch on 40 grabs. He's the leading returning receiver and the most reliable player in the group. Attrice Brooks, a 6'5" junior college transfer, will make an inviting target.

Offensive line coach Mike Cavanaugh, another veteran of the NFL wars, will try to build a line that can open up some holes for the running backs and give the quarterbacks time to throw. He's got a couple of incumbents who can play in 6'5", 317-pound tackle Kaulana Noa and 6'5", 320-pound guard Andy Phillips. Adrian Klemm also returns, having played both tackle and tight end. Jucos Dwight Zimmerman and Darryl Miller both should make a strong run at starting. But the long-term future includes a local trio featuring the biggest recruit in the history of the program, Shayne Kajioka, who stands 6'4" and goes 380 pounds. High school teammate Keola Loo joins him, along with Vince Manuwai. That trio represents the line's future, but again, don't be surprised if they play right away.

In 12 games, Hawaii registered just 18 sacks. Jones is bringing in some new blood on the defensive line to try and put pressure on the quarterback, and the hope is jucos Karman Saulsberry and 349-pound Doug Sims can provide the necessary heat. Nose guard Tony Tuioti averaged 5.5 tackles, best among the returning linemen. But with Hawaii changing schemes from 3–4 to a 4–3, it'll be interesting to see how he adjusts. Defensive end Houdini Jackson provided solid play from a linebacker spot last year and led the team with three sacks.

Linebacker is the one area where there's experience, talent and depth. Jones also recruited well; both Pisa Tinoisamoa and Anipati Mailo come highly touted and were among the WAC's top 20 recruits. Hawaii also brought in Preston Faraimo, a converted quarterback from Rancho Buena Vista (Calif.) High who is an excellent athlete. As for the returnees, Anthony Smith and Matt Paul combined for 203 tackles, although Smith has been moved to safety. All in all, there's a good nucleus for defensive coordinator Greg McMackin to work with.

The influx of junior college players: Dedrick Miller, Travis Campbell, Tony Vaughn and Feiamma Armstrong should provide immediate help in the secondary. Quincy LeJay had two of the team's three interceptions last year. Obviously, those numbers need to improve. LeJay added 51 tackles and Phil Austin had 52 in just eight games.

Chad Shrout punted 82 times (39 yard avg.) while connecting on seven of 15 field goal attempts. The hope is that Armstrong will become a weapon in returning kicks.

Depth Chart

OFFENSE (5)

WR	3 Dwight Carter (Sr., 1)	7 Jauron Pigg (Sr., 1)
WR	4 Ricky Lumford (Jr., 1)	2 Craig Stutzmann (So., 1)
LT	63 Adrian Klemm (Sr., 3)	Darryl Miller (Jr., 2)
LG	**68 Andy Phillips (Sr., 3)**	55 Doug Gosling (Jr., 0)
C	**73 Chris Smith (So., 1)**	Dwight Zimmerman (Jr., 0)
RG	**74 Dustin Owen (Sr., 1)**	75 Chris Hogge (Fr., 0)
RT	**71 Kaulana Noa (Sr., 3)**	62 Kynan Forney (Sr., 1)
QB	**9 Dan Robinson (Sr., 1)**	16 Josh Skinner (Sr., 3)
FB	20 Avion Weaver (Jr., 2)	Andrew Niumata (Fr., 0)
WR	Attrice Brooks (Jr., 0)	86 Kiavash Badii (So., 0)
WR	88 Davey deLaura (Jr., 1)	87 John Kirby (Sr., 0)

DEFENSE (5)

DE	6 Joe Correia (Jr., 1)	41 Steve Dietschy (Jr., 0)
DT	**91 Matt Elam (Sr., 2)**	Karman Saulsberry (Jr., 0)
DT	**92 Tony Tuioti (Sr., 3)**	Doug Sims (Jr., 0)
DE	57 Houdini Jackson (So., 1)	96 Olen Rosehill (Jr., 2)
LB	44 Jeff Ulbrich (Sr., 1)	Pisa Tinoisamoa (Fr., 0)
LB	**47 Matt Paul (Sr., 3)**	Anipati Mailo (Fr., 0)
LB	8 Rinda Brooks (Sr., 1)	Preston Faraimo (Fr., 0)
CB	**27 Quincy LeJay (Sr., 1)**	Feiamma Armstrong (Jr., 0)
CB	Tony Vaughn (Jr., 0)	12 Nate Jackson (So., 1)
SS	**11 Anthony Smith (Jr., 1)**	18 Daniel Ho-Ching (Sr., 3)
FS	7 Phil Austin (Sr., 1)	31 Chris Riccardi (So., 1)

SPECIAL TEAMS

K	99 Chad Shrout (Sr., 3)
P	99 Chad Shrout (Sr., 3)
KR	Feiamma Armstrong (Jr., 0)
PR	Feiamma Armstrong (Jr., 0)

(#) Indicates number of returning starters
***BOLD** indicates returning starters*
NUMBER after class indicates letters won

Head Coach: June Jones — **1998 Record (WAC): 0-12 (0-8)**
1999 Prediction: 8th WAC — **Aloha Stadium (50,000)**

UAB Blazers

108

Having begun in Division III in 1991 and moved up to I-AA in '93, UAB concluded its three-year stint as a Division I-A independent in 1998 with a season mark of 4–7. A charter member of Conference USA in all other sports, UAB has entered the loop for football after only eight years of NCAA-sanctioned competition.

Ashley Flemming

Kris Neal

Head coach Watson Brown has no doubt grown weary of the wars with the likes of Nebraska, Tennessee and Arizona that he and his team have had to fight as an independent. But the '99 opener at Missouri, followed a week later by a trip to Virginia Tech, doesn't offer much solace for the immediate future.

130.6 Number of rushing yards per game given up by last year's UAB defense, 30th on the national charts.

Fortunately, Brown faces the challenge with a veteran club, including 16 returning starters — nine on offense, seven on defense — plus both kickers.

At quarterback, junior Daniel Dixon started nine games and completed 69-of-139 attempts, but he threw six interceptions and no touchdown passes. Lee Jolly, who started two games in midseason while Dixon was on the shelf with a sprained ankle, was 38-of-88, but six of his completions were for scores.

Between them, Dixon and Jolly have started every game the last two years, and Brown believes their production will increase in the new system.

With his top two ball carriers returning and a pair of blue-chip recruits coming aboard, Brown is excited about the running game.

Tailback Lucious Foster led the team in rushing for the second straight year with 568 yards and a 5.7-yard average. Highly regarded freshmen tailbacks J.J. Byrd and Golinsky Smith will challenge for playing time and jockey for position with sophomore Jegil Dugger as the starter in 2000.

Cory Conley started six contests at fullback and contributed 325 yards.

Senior Darrius Malone snagged a team-high 24 passes last fall and returns at split end. Quentin Troupe returns at flanker, although sophomore Maurice Gallery, one of the nation's most dangerous kick returners, could emerge as a threat. And Brown expects a big year from senior Ernest Ross, who has contributed mostly as an option quarterback in injury situations.

Juniors Undrae Crosby and Johnni Arrington have seen action and will share the job at tight end.

Guards Preston Fray and Tim Medders and center Brandon Herring all return as starters, and sophomore tackle Josh Case has some starting experience, in an offensive line that made room for a respectable running game. But Brown sees the competition for spots in the line as the most heated of the spring.

Of four junior college transfers who enrolled at UAB for the winter quarter and participated in spring drills, three were 285-pound offensive linemen: Tony Dollison, Ryan Estes and Kevin Ford. Junior college All-American Kevin Grace will arrive in the fall.

Brown likes what he sees up front on defense despite the graduation of two first-line players. Marlon Bush should provide big plays. He registered five sacks and six tackles for loss as a part-time starting end and now moves to tackle. Eddie Freeman also moves inside after contributing at end as a redshirt freshman. End Bryan Thomas should blossom in his sophomore year after registering six sacks in '98. At the other end will be 6'7", 275-pound junior college transfer Otis Leverette.

Senior Darnell Stiell is a returning starter at strong-side linebacker. Senior Scott King is the front-runner in the middle, though senior Jonathan Sledge will return from shoulder surgery this fall with something to say about that. On the weak side, sophomore Nick Stewart and redshirt freshman Starlin Ridley have the speed and quickness to compensate for youthful mistakes.

All four starters return in the secondary. Dwight Platt posted a team-high four interceptions. He'll join James Williams at the corners, with Kris Neal and Wes Foss at the safeties.

Punter Lee Carter is listed as the returning starter for '99 and Jake Arians will kick. The good news is that Foster and Gallery established themselves as two of the nation's top return specialists — Gallery with a 24.9-yard average on 25 kickoff returns, Foster with 12.4 yards per punt return.

Depth Chart

OFFENSE (9)

SE	**2 Darrius Malone (Sr., 3)**	6 Ernest Ross (Sr., 3)
LT	76 Josh Case (So., 1)	78 Philip Gambrell (Fr., 0)
LG	**65 Preston Fray (So., 1)**	Kevin Ford (Jr., 0)
C	**55 Brandon Herring (Sr., 3)**	Ryan Estes (Jr., 0)
RG	**71 Tim Medders (Jr., 2)**	Tony Dollison (Jr., 0)
RT	72 Bo Perry (So., 1)	77 Matthew Pippen (Jr., 0)
TE	**87 Undrae Crosby (Jr., 2)**	17 Johnni Arrington (Jr., 1)
FL	**11 Quentin Troupe (Sr., 2)**	20 Maurice Gallery (So., 1)
QB	**16 Daniel Dixon (Jr., 2)**	12 Lee Jolly (Jr., 2)
FB	**3 Cory Conley (Jr., 1)**	32 Bernard Anderson (So., 1)
RB	**5 Lucious Foster (Sr., 3)**	24 Jegil Dugger (So., 1)

DEFENSE (7)

DE	Otis Leverette (Jr., 0)	8 Derrick Cloud (So., 1)
DT	**90 Marlon Bush (So., 1)**	73 Tanner Allen (Fr., 0)
DT	89 Eddie Freeman (So., 1)	34 Rodney Jones (Jr., 1)
DE	**46 Bryan Thomas (So., 1)**	49 Eric Lampley (Jr., 2)
LB	**23 Darnell Stiell (Sr., 1)**	58 James Godfrey (Sr., 2)
LB	54 Scott King (Sr., 1)	43 Jonathan Sledge (Sr., 1)
LB	36 Nick Stewart (So., 1)	51 Starlin Ridley (Fr., 0)
CB	**38 James Williams (Sr., 1)**	21 Rodregis Brooks (Jr., 2)
CB	**10 Dwight Platt (So., 1)**	31 Chris Brown (So., 0)
SS	**18 Kris Neal (Sr., 1)**	29 Yudonn Biassou (Sr., 1)
FS	**44 Wes Foss (So., 1)**	35 Adrian Singleton (So., 1)

SPECIAL TEAMS

K	27 Jake Arians (Sr., 3)	70 Rhett Gallego (So., 1)
P	7 Lee Carter (Sr., 1)	
KR	20 Maurice Gallery (So., 1)	
PR	5 Lucious Foster (Sr., 3)	

(#) Indicates number of returning starters
***BOLD** indicates returning starters*
NUMBER after class indicates letters won

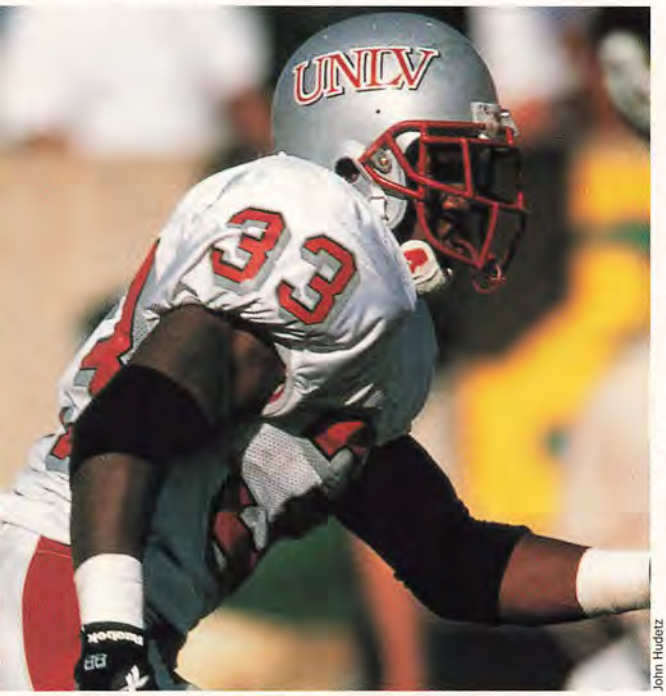
Head Coach: Watson Brown | **1998 Record (Independent): 4–7**
1999 Prediction: 9th C-USA | **Home Field: Legion Field (80,391)**

UNLV Rebels

109

From his first day on the job, first-year UNLV coach John Robinson has never resisted comparisons to Kansas State's transformation into one of the country's top football programs.

The team he inherited certainly has the first and most important requirement for a potential turnaround: it was terrible.



John Hudetz

James Wofford

Yet Robinson is not deterred.

"There's a certain gamble in coming here," he says. "People have asked me, 'Why are you doing this?' Because it gives us the chance to put ourselves on the line."

111 UNLV finished next to last among 112 Division I-A teams in total offense, averaging 255 yards a game. They could muster only 14.2 points per contest.

Robinson adds, "There isn't going to be room for people who don't want to have a fanatical belief. . . We want people who want to enjoy the adventure of trying to do something great now."

One thing that the Robinson hire does for UNLV is establish some instant credibility and interest in the program. Despite Robinson's troubles during his second tenure at USC, he brings a solid record of success to a program that has been on a downward spiral.

At quarterback, Jason Vaughan, a big, strong thrower who originally signed with Mississippi, is the front runner. Sophomore Chris Hayward will compete with Vaughan, after completing 23-of-37 passes for 300 yards last season.

Robinson will utilize a two-back system. James Wofford gained 816 yards as a sophomore in a one-back offense to rank eighth in the WAC in rushing. He'll probably play fullback in Robinson's new system.

The top tailback is junior college transfer Jeremi Rudolph, once considered among the best prep prospects in Florida before he took a shot at professional baseball in the Blue Jays organization.

Receiver Nate Turner, a juco transfer, caught 62 passes for 1,200 yards and 12 touchdowns. Senior Len Ware led the team with 39 catches for 500 yards, and sophomore Duane James showed his explosiveness as a kick returner, while also catching 18 passes.

The Rebels have nice potential at tight end, with possibilities including converted guard Peter Tramontanas, redshirt freshman DeJhown Mandley and juco transfer Jermaine Curtis, a prep teammate of Tennessee quarterback Tee Martin.

The UNLV offensive line will require a lot of sorting out in preseason practice, but the coaching staff was pleasantly surprised to discover the quality of young linemen in the program.

Redshirt freshmen such as Tony Terrell and Ernie Calanche will compete with seniors Robert Grundy and Glenn Pilarowski, junior John Greer and sophomore Brian Hart at guard and tackle. At center, contenders are former defensive lineman Danny Pacheco and junior college transfer Greg Hulett.

UNLV's defensive package is built around edge pressure with speed. To accommodate the need for speed, linebackers were moved to end and ends to tackle in the spring as defensive coordinator Jeff McInerney tried to improve a group that allowed a WAC-high 35 points a game.

Among the players making an early impression up front were converted linebackers A.C. Smith and Dusty Pearce, along with redshirt freshman Ahmad Briggs. McInerney helped himself by personally recruiting three junior college linemen out of the South. Of those, Ahmad Miller could make the biggest impact right away. Freshman Kawika Sagapolu from Las Vegas may be counted on to help. Roderick Jones is a returning starter who could also see playing time.

Sophomore middle linebacker James Sunia is a strong, solid tackler who made 10.5 stops a game and will definitely find a home in the 4–3 alignment.

The other linebacking spots are up in the air with returning starter Jerrad Pierucci among those trying to fit into the new plans.

Sophomore Kevin Thomas has the coverage ability to be a fixture at cornerback, while free safety Quincy Sanders has come back from a knee injury that knocked him out of action during the first game last year.

Senior Tim O'Reilly is back to kick and freshman Ryan McDonald should take over for Joe Kristosik, the nation's No. 1 punter. James is an outstanding kickoff- and punt-return threat.

Depth Chart

OFFENSE (4)

WR	**3**	**Len Ware (Sr., 3)**	16	Duane James (So., 1)
LT	**72**	**John Greer (Jr., 2)**	60	Ernie Calanche (Fr., 0)
LG	70	Tony Terrell (Fr., 0)	75	Shane Wagers (So., 0)
C	66	Danny Pacheco (Jr., 2)		Greg Hulett (Jr., 0)
RG	54	Brian Hart (Jr., 2)	62	Allen Williams (Fr., 0)
RT	**67**	**Robert Grundy (Sr., 1)**	71	Glenn Pilarowski (Sr., 1)
TE	89	Peter Tramontanas (So., 1)	80	DeJhown Mandley (Fr., 0)
QB	10	Jason Vaughan (Jr., 0)	11	Chris Hayward (So., 1)
FB	**33**	**James Wofford (Jr., 2)**	32	BJ Edwards (Sr., 1)
TB	7	Jeremi Rudolph (Jr., 0)	21	Dahrin Footman (Sr., 3)
WR	6	Nate Turner (Jr., 0)	86	Troy Mason (Fr., 0)

DEFENSE (6)

DE	25	A.C. Smith (Sr., 2)	49	Alonzo Jones (Sr., 3)
DT	90	Ahmad Briggs (Fr., 0)		Kawika Sagapolu (Fr., 0)
DT		Ahmad Miller (So., 0)	**10**	**Roderick Jones (Sr., 3)**
DE	50	Dusty Pearce (Sr., 1)	47	Austin Allen (Fr., 0)
LB	48	Tyler Brickell (Jr., 2)	51	Devon Rose (So., 1)
LB	**43**	**James Sunia (So., 1)**	95	Bret Gilbert (Sr., 3)
LB	**55**	**Jerrad Pierucci (Sr., 3)**	45	Steve Newton (So., 1)
CB	**28**	**Kevin Thomas (So., 1)**	5	Amar Brisco (Sr., 3)
CB	**26**	**Andre Hilliard (Sr., 1)**	5	Amar Brisco (Sr., 3)
SS	**22**	**Randy Black (Jr., 2)**	20	Kawika Batoon (Jr., 2)
FS	2	Quincy Sanders (Sr., 3)	42	Sam Brandon (So., 1)

SPECIAL TEAMS

K	17	Tim O'Reilly (Sr., 3)
P		Ryan McDonald (Fr., 0)
KR	16	Duane James (So., 1)
PR	16	Duane James (So., 1)

(#) Indicates number of returning starters
***BOLD** indicates returning starters*
NUMBER after class indicates letters won

Head Coach: John Robinson — **1998 Record (WAC): 0–11 (0–8)**
1999 Prediction: 8th MWC — **Sam Boyd Stadium (40,000)**

Kent Golden Flashes

110

Poor Kent. The Golden Flashes laid golden eggs from start to finish last fall, limping to an 0–11 season (0–8 in the MAC) and surrendering 42 or more points in seven of those games.

Put simply, Kent was one of the worst teams — if not THE worst — in major college football in dealing with the running game. They couldn't produce one, and they sure as heck couldn't stop one. Kent ran for just 87.5 yards per game and surrendered a whopping 310.6, both conference lows. Opponents collected 42 rushing touchdowns against the Golden Flashes and averaged 6.0 yards per carry.

Kent SID

Jose Davis

The low point was a 45–16 loss at homecoming to rival Akron on Oct. 10. All-MAC senior wideout Eugene Baker suffered a broken clavicle trying to make a grab in the end zone during the first quarter and was lost for the rest of the year. So were the Flashes, who had no other legitimate game-breakers.

962 Kent's total rushing yards last year — a fair number for one player, a bad sign when it's all your team could manage.

Whereas most teams went into spring ball with two or three major points to try and brush up before the fall, Kent coach Dean Pees, now entering his second season, threw all the pieces of the puzzle on the ground.

Kent is starting over, slowly, from scratch.

"I have no timetable to get things done," Pees says. "We'll just re-introduce everything. We want to come out of the spring feeling good about the starting 22."

They'd just like to feel good about anything. Here's one thing to look forward to: MAC newbie Buffalo, which visits Oct. 30.

Quarterback Jose Davis will be trying to regain the form he showed two years ago, when he set school records for most completions in a season (194), attempts (365), passing yards (2,707) and passing TDs (32). The 6-foot senior really missed having Baker around toward the end of the year but still threw for nine TDs and 204.6 yards per game, fifth-most in the MAC.

DeMarlo Rozier showed intensity as a freshman last year, but the guts didn't match the numbers. At 5'9", 211 pounds, Rozier looked stubby and slow and unlike Davis, appeared unable to make something out of nothing (which is about all the Kent offensive line gave most days). He ran for 621 yards on 185 carries, a 3.4 average, but scored just two TDs. Backup Chante Murphy (5'11", 209) is another young, big back. Fullbacks Michael Smith and Leroy Arrington weigh a combined 459 pounds.

If there was any upside offensively, it was the discovery of wide receiver Jurron Kelly. The sophomore stepped up as a primary target when Baker went down last year, snaring 31 balls for 476 yards and two scores. Joshua Bostick, another sophomore, is expected to bounce back from an early-season knee injury that took him out of the lineup for most of the year. Kelly and Bostick will be key components as Kent rebuilds.

The offensive line is intact with the exception of left guard. A year of experience should help this group tremendously after a season of struggles that showed how much they missed All-MAC stalwarts Bob Hallen and Steve Zahursky. Right tackle Dan Goodspeed is the only senior starter listed in the spring two-deep.

Kent's defense was a model of futility last year — young and slow. The Flashes were last in the MAC in total defense (5,209). There's nowhere to go but up.

Senior defensive end Brad Hartman contributed with 64 tackles and six stops for losses, but the help was nowhere to be found up front. The Flashes totaled five sacks for the year. Hartman is the only returning starter on the line, where the other three slots will be up for grabs even going into preseason camp.

The starting linebacking corps is back in full. Kent's leading tackler, sophomore linebacker Rashan Hall (96 stops) returns, as does No. 3 tackler Matt Rayl (81 stops, five tackles for 20 yards in losses).

Senior Geoff Betts, second in tackles last year with 83, should hold on to the strong safety slot, with senior Gary McCullough on the inside track at free safety. The cornerback options are extremely green, although converted tailback Murad Holliday is a speedster and has shown decent potential.

On the plus side, both kickers and the three primary return men are back. Kelly was especially exciting returning punts, averaging 14.2 yards per attempt, best in the MAC.

Depth Chart

OFFENSE (4)

WR	18	Joshua Bostick (So., 1)	10	James Gamble (Fr., 0)
LT	**69**	**Jason Hupp (Jr., 1)**	78	Cory Zwick (Sr., 0)
LG	85	Victor Vrabel (So., 1)	77	Kevin Jamieson (Fr., 0)
C	62	Jeff Krysiak (Jr., 2)	74	Deron Bowling (Fr., 0)
RG	71	Brian Hallett (So., 1)	64	Josh Diggs (Fr., 0)
RT	**72**	**Dan Goodspeed (Sr., 1)**	54	Jarrod Vrabel (Jr., 1)
TE	46	Jason Gavadza (Sr., 3)	82	John Reikowski (Fr., 0)
QB	**6**	**Jose Davis (Sr., 2)**	19	Zach Williams (Jr., 1)
FB	41	Michael Smith (Jr., 1)	32	Leroy Arrington (Jr., 0)
TB	**8**	**DeMarlo Rozier (So., 1)**	43	Chante Murphy (So., 1)
WR	3	Jurron Kelly (So., 1)	5	Matt Curry (So., 1)

DEFENSE (4)

DE	55	Mark Strickland (So., 1)	91	John Nurczyk (Fr., 0)
DT	65	Aaron Mayer (So., 1)	50	Jason Holy (Jr., 0)
DT	92	Richard Bender (Jr., 1)	76	Brandon Bridges (Fr., 0)
DE	**90**	**Brad Hartman (Sr., 3)**	98	Jeff Potter (Jr., 0)
LB	**4**	**Rashan Hall (So., 1)**	51	Curtis Witherspoon (Jr., 2)
LB	22	Matt Rayl (Jr., 2)	44	Heath Hommel (So., 1)
LB	**56**	**Ryan Altizer (Jr., 2)**	28	Yves Dossous (Jr., 1)
CB	21	Murad Holliday (Sr., 3)	31	Benny Jones (Sr., 1)
CB	11	Nashville Dyer (Fr., 0)	27	Ben Durant (Sr., 1)
SS	**9**	**Geoff Betts (Sr., 3)**	35	Reggie Crook (So., 1)
FS	42	Gary McCullough (Sr., 3)	94	Jared Moran (Fr., 0)

SPECIAL TEAMS

K	38	Ben Hupp (So., 1)
P	16	Jim Less (Sr., 1)
KR	43	Chante Murphy (So., 1)
PR	3	Jurron Kelly (So., 1)

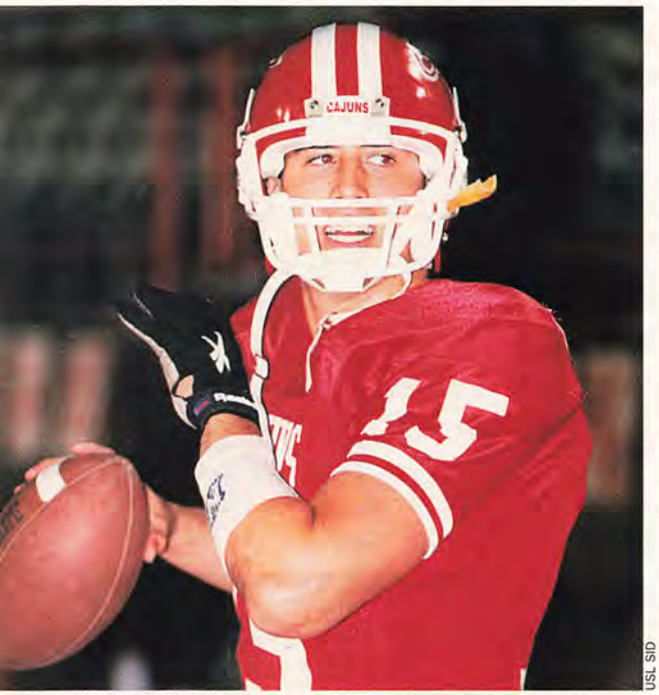
(#) Indicates number of returning starters
***BOLD** indicates returning starters*
NUMBER after class indicates letters won

Head Coach: Dean Pees — **1998 Record (MAC): 0–11 (0–8)**
1999 Prediction: 6th MAC East — **Dix Stadium (30,520)**

USL Ragin' Cajuns

111

Jerry Baldwin, a 16-year coaching veteran in the Louisiana collegiate ranks, has been hired to resuscitate a USL team that has won just three games in the last two years and hasn't enjoyed a winning season in three. Baldwin, a former Louisiana Tech assistant and most recently the defensive line coach at LSU, takes over for Nelson Stokley, who



USL SID

Barton Folse

retired after 13 years at the helm in Lafayette.

Baldwin greets 15 returning starters, including eight on defense. But alarm sirens are sounding on the Cajun D. USL fielded the nation's most porous unit in 1998, finishing last overall and against the pass, and surrendered 41.2 points per game.

Offensively, the Cajuns weren't much better, and the graduation of Brandon Stokley, one of the most prolific wide receivers in America, is a huge loss.

241 The number of passes Brandon Stokley caught in his USL career, just 25 less than the all-time NCAA career record. Had Stokley not missed most of his junior year with an injury, the record would be his.

Senior Barton Folse and sophomore Derek Dyer both return after splitting time at quarterback last fall. Neither posted a positive touchdown-to-interception ratio or a particularly inspiring pass efficiency rating. Of the two, Folse put up the better passing numbers, completing 51.5 percent of his passes for 848 yards and three scores. Dyer completed less than 40 percent, but demonstrated superior athleticism and escapability as a redshirt freshman, and his effectiveness as a passer should improve with experience.

Elvis Joseph, who led the team in rushing with 532 yards as a freshman in 1997, moved to wideout a year ago and is the team's top returning receiver with 16 catches for 226 yards and a score. The 206-pound former high school fullback moved back to tailback in the spring and enters the season as the projected starter.

Darren Brister, who led the team in rushing in 1996 and '98, and John Bernard combined for 1,138 yards and nine scores last fall while splitting time at tailback, where they will now back up Joseph. Bernard, the fastest of the group, is also one of the nation's top punt returners.

Marcus Wilridge, who caught 19 passes as a freshman in 1997, is back after sitting out the '98 season and has captured a starting job at one of the wideouts. Desmond Williams has spent his first two years bouncing back and forth between receiver and defensive back. The 6'4", 210-pound junior has found a home as a wideout after pulling down 11 passes in the final seven games of '98. Anthony Dozier, with 34 career catches, holds the tight end spot.

Juniors Ryan Childers and David Gaar finished the 1998 campaign as regulars at guard. Gaar has also seen action at center and has been repositioned there for 1999. Childers at right guard and senior Mark Lamere at left tackle team with Gaar to give Baldwin three returning starters up front. Tackle Ryan Cade and guard Brandon Arabie, both juniors, round out the starting five.

Senior Danny Scott provided most of the pass rush on last year's defense, notching eight sacks his first year out of junior college, and returns right defensive end. Matt Merry at left end combined with Scott for 18 tackles for loss, with junior Charles Brown clogging up the middle at tackle. Joining Brown at the other tackle is Eugene Chambers, who fought through injuries all last season and still managed to register 25 stops.

Gerald Stewart and Dwayne Viator return for their third year as starting linebackers. The two combined for 138 tackles a year ago, including 12 for losses of 47 yards, and Stewart contributed four sacks. Victor Hart saw action in all 11 games of 1998 and is available for backup duty. Redshirt freshman Walter Sampson fills the vacancy on the strong side.

All three returning starters in the secondary run the 40 in 4.5 or better, so speed is an asset. Matt Cieslak collected 76 tackles, good for second on the team, and paced the group with three interceptions from his free safety post. Cieslak is now stationed at strong safety with Brian Deamer moving up at free safety. Starting cornerbacks Mark Sylvas and Charles Woods return, but neither picked off a pass in '98, and Curnell Schumack may have secured a job in one of the corners.

Chris Shaw, USL's punter the last three years, also was the placekicker last season, but Brent Bergeron will assume the placekicking duties this fall. Bernard finished 13th in the nation with a 12.6-yard punt return average and also handles kickoff returns.

Depth Chart

OFFENSE (7)

WR	17	Desmond Williams (Jr., 2)	82	Cory Scott (Fr., 0)
LT	77	Mark Lamere (Sr., 2)	75	Jason Boyer (Sr., 3)
LG	64	Brandon Arabie (Jr., 2)	66	Joshua Sledge (So., 0)
C	**56**	**David Gaar (Jr., 2)**	78	Garrett Charkalis (So., 0)
RG	**76**	**Ryan Childers (Jr., 2)**	72	Matt Devall (Fr., 0)
RT	**79**	**Ryan Cade (Jr., 2)**	75	Jason Boyer (Sr., 3)
TE	87	Anthony Dozier (Jr., 2)	88	Richard Sandusky (Jr., 2)
QB	**15**	**Barton Folse (Sr., 3)**	4	Derek Dyer (So., 1)
FB	**34**	**Tim Keys (Sr., 1)**	41	Jeremy Prevost (Fr., 0)
TB	**3**	**Elvis Joseph (Jr., 2)**	**2**	**John Bernard (Jr., 1)**
WR	85	Marcus Wilridge (So., 1)	81	James Stewart (Fr.,0)

DEFENSE (8)

DE	**50**	**Matt Merry (Sr., 3)**	74	Charley Smith (Fr., 0)
DT	63	Eugene Chambers (Sr., 3)	94	Ronnie Adams (Sr., 1)
DT	**91**	**Charles Brown (Jr., 2)**	52	Ken Stansbury (Jr., 1)
DE	**90**	**Danny Scott (Sr., 1)**	58	Derrick Marshall (So., 1)
LB	**51**	**Dwayne Viator (Sr., 3)**	45	Ron Payne (Sr., 1)
LB	**13**	**Gerald Stewart (Sr., 3)**	25	Victor Hart (Jr., 2)
LB	49	Walter Sampson (Fr., 0)	33	Blake Bourque (Fr., 0)
CB	8	Curnell Schumack (Jr., 1)	**5**	**Mark Sylvas (Sr., 3)**
CB	**10**	**Charles Woods (Sr., 3)**	23	Mike Merchant (Jr., 0)
SS	**43**	**Matt Cieslak (So., 1)**	22	William Young (Jr., 1)
FS	36	Brian Deamer (Fr., 0)	22	William Young (Jr., 1)

SPECIAL TEAMS

K	80	Brent Bergeron (Fr., 0)
P	27	Chris Shaw (Sr., 3)
KR	2	John Bernard (Jr., 1)
PR	2	John Bernard (Jr., 1)

(#) Indicates number of returning starters
***BOLD** indicates returning starters*
NUMBER after class indicates letters won

Head Coach: Jerry Baldwin — **1998 Record: 2–9**

Cajun Field (31,000)

Ball State Cardinals

112

Few coaches will be happier to get the season started than Ball State's Bill Lynch — anything to get past 1998. Ball State posted back-to-back losing seasons for the first time since 1984-85. The Cardinals set a school record for losses (10) and, just two years removed from a MAC title, finished last in the league. It probably isn't so bad, then, that only four starters return on offense. Of course, LeAndre Moore, second-leading career rusher in Ball State history, isn't one of them. Junior Kevin Cartwright (221 yards in 10 games, one touchdown) gets the first shot to replace Moore; junior college transfer Quavis Tate, a 5'8" scatback, offers Ball State a change of pace.

Ball State SID

Ernest Pressley

Neither will show much impact if an offensive line that's featuring three new starters doesn't jell. Tackles Aaron Johnson and Ryan Carter, both 6'5", return. David Miller, John Moore, Jeff Theil and Shane Smith will be tried at guard; Chad Ludwig at center.

10/3 The last time Ball State won a game was Oct. 3, 1998 against Northern Illinois, although the 18–13 tally may have been as ugly as the current losing streak.

Brian Conn opened spring drills as the No. 1 quarterback. Conn, a sophomore, started two games last year, throwing two touchdowns in 61 attempts before an injury in the next-to-last game of the year. Lynch has shown patience with Conn but won't hesitate to go with junior Clay Walters if Conn flames out during BSU's treacherous September slate.

Wide receiver is the only offensive position of certainty for Lynch, who has one of the MAC's better playmakers in Adrian Reese (341 yards receiving). Reese, a 5'9" senior, has started 22 straight games and was 17th in the country in punt-return average (12.1) last year. Montez Currin was effective as a possession receiver in spurts and should start opposite Reese; third receiver Jermaine Jordan, at 6-foot-2, is a big, athletic target. Fifth-year senior Jimmy Place is a load (6'7") at tight end.

Ball State's defense was overworked and really started to wear down toward the end of the year, but the pieces are there for improvement. Sununguru Rusunuguku was held out of spring practice but is probable to play this fall. He had four sacks in 1997 and would give an anemic pass rush a serious kick. The downside of his absence was a young and undersized defensive line that was usually overwhelmed. The upside was that two potential stars got their battle scars — sophomore Mark Zackery, a plugger (5'11", 270) who started every game at tackle and had seven stops for loss, and sophomore end Bayette George (three sacks).

A replacement must be found for gritty Damon Hummel. BSU recorded just 12 sacks and opponents ran for more than 210 yards per game in 1998, and the line was the main reason why.

The linebacking corps is among the best in the league and Lynch is switching from a 4–3 defense to 4–4 to take advantage of it. Middle linebacker Marlon Llewellyn tallied a team-best 141 tackles last year, his first as a starter, including 11 behind the line of scrimmage.

Ernest Pressley had six double-digit tackle games at the other inside linebacker slot and matches Llewellyn's relentlessness. Larry Davis moved to defense in the last six games of 1998 after starting his career at wide receiver and was a hit at outside linebacker — totaling two sacks, three passes broken up and two interceptions. The Cardinals can't wait to see how he pans out over a full season.

Free safety Pete Smith is the cornerstone of an experienced (although often abused) secondary. Smith had 135 tackles and forced two fumbles.

Pint-sized cornerbacks Alger Boswell (5'7") and Lowell Faison (5'9") are going to need help from the pass rush to be effective. Neither picked off a pass, although Faison was credited with two pass deflections as a starter last year.

Reese makes Ball State's return units extremely formidable. He returned 23 punts last year and recorded a 12.1 yards per punt average. He tallied 22.2 yards per kickoff on six tries.

The placekicking is significantly less stellar, unless Thomas Pucke can do better than making 1-of-4 from 30-to-39 yards (and just 4-of-8 overall).

The new punter, either Kevin Jennings or Brad Kroft, figures to get a lot of work.

Depth Chart

OFFENSE (4)

WR	20	**Adrian Reese (Sr., 3)**	4	Jamar Cottee (So., 0)
LT	74	**Aaron Johnson (Jr., 2)**	70	Brian Whalen (Fr., 0)
LG	61	John Moore (So., 1)	79	David Miller (So., 0)
C	59	Chad Ludwig (Jr., 2)	63	Nathan Boyd (So., 0)
RG	73	Jeff Thiel (Jr., 2)	65	Shane Smith (So., 1)
RT	60	**Ryan Carter (Sr., 1)**	71	Chris Sorrells (So., 0)
TE	89	Jimmy Place (Sr., 2)	96	Doug Nelson (Jr., 2)
QB	9	Brian Conn (So., 1)	6	**Clay Walters (Jr., 1)**
RB	23	Kevin Cartwright (Jr., 2)		Quavis Tate (Jr., 0)
FB	45	Gerald Palmer (So., 1)	48	Tony DelAngel (So., 1)
WR	84	Montez Currin (Sr., 2)	87	Jermaine Jordan (Jr., 1)

DEFENSE (10)

DE	99	**Bayette George (So., 1)**	69	Andy Ping (Fr., 0)
DT	72	**Mark Zackery (So., 1)**	51	Matt Messaros (Jr., 2)
DT	66	**Sununguru Rusunuguku (Sr.,3)**	76	Evan Triggs (Jr., 1)
DE	92	**Rachman Crable (So., 1)**	96	Luke Foster (Fr., 0)
LB	29	**Larry Davis (Jr., 2)**	28	Nate Perry (Sr., 3)
LB	37	**Ernest Pressley (Sr., 3)**	58	Shaka Johnson (So., 1)
LB	52	**Marlon Llewellyn (Sr., 3)**	36	Allen Lidy (So., 1)
LB	18	**Byron Driver (Jr., 1)**	10	Lecedus Thompson (Sr.,2)
CB	42	**Lowell Faison (Sr., 3)**	49	Chickaro Martin (Jr., 0)
CB	3	Alger Boswell (So., 1)	25	Jason Teeters (So., 1)
FS	11	**Pete Smith (Jr., 2)**	24	Nate Andrews (Jr., 2)

SPECIAL TEAMS

K	86	Thomas Pucke (So., 1)
P	16	Brad Kroft (Sr., 0)
KR	20	Adrian Reese (Sr., 3)
PR	20	Adrian Reese (Sr., 3)

(#) Indicates number of returning starters
***BOLD** indicates returning starters*
NUMBER after class indicates letters won

Head Coach: Bill Lynch — **1998 Record (MAC): 1-10 (1-7)**
1999 Prediction: 6th MAC West — **Ball State Stadium (21,581)**

Middle Tennessee Blue Raiders

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Middle Tennessee State University football opens a new era in 1999 with the long-awaited move to Division I-A. The Blue Raiders, who will compete as an independent for now, closed the book on their I-AA years in '98.

No less significant a transition occurred this past off-season as James "Boots" Donnelly stepped aside after 20 years, four Ohio Valley Conference championships and seven I-AA playoff appearances as head coach of the Blue Raiders. Enter 39-year-old Andy McCollum, who played for Donnelly at Austin Peay and began his coaching career as an assistant under Donnelly at MTSU.

Middle Tennessee SID

Wes Counts

15 The number of junior college transfers signed by Andy McCollum in his first year as Middle Tennessee coach as the Blue Raiders embark upon their Division I-A affiliation. By contrast, just 12 high school players are coming aboard. McCollum hopes to reverse the trend in the not-too-distant future.

The linebackers coach at Baylor for the last six years, McCollum returns to Murfreesboro with glowing credentials. His first recruiting effort at Middle resulted in a haul of heralded newcomers that could transform the starting lineup overnight, though it's a bit heavily laden with jucos, a trend McCollum would like to reverse as his program comes together.

Wes Counts burst on the scene as a redshirt freshman after halftime of last season's opener and seized the starting quarterback job. He set the school single-season record with a 67 percent completion rate. Though both his backups return, freshman Fred Smith of Knoxville, who turned down Ole Miss and NC State to attend Middle, could climb to No. 2 in a heartbeat.

Senior Kelverrick Green and sophomore Tony Wesley return at tailback after combining for 846 yards a year ago. Green, who owns the school single-game rushing mark of 259 yards, and Wesley both are quick and elusive. But they soon may have to take a backseat to Dwone Hicks, a powerful 225-pound freshman with 4.4 speed, and junior college All-American Jamison Palmer, who registered four 200-yard games last year.

With the graduation of school single-season reception record holder Sulecio Sanford, sophomore Kendall Newson takes over as the go-to receiver. In 1998, Newson averaged a team-leading 13.8 yards on 30 catches with four scores. Immediate help is on the way at wideout in speedy jucos Nick Payne and Derrick Yates. Xavier Hatnot enjoyed a banner year in junior college and has all the ingredients of the classic tight end.

Senior tackle Kevin Richer, junior tackle Barry Hall and junior guard Tony Edge all return as starters in the offensive line, and the vacancies will be filled by jucos, Brock Lillis at center and Gil Matias III at guard. This array of starters is not lacking in size and strength — Richer, Hall and Matias all weigh 300 pounds or more — and is ideally suited to power run blocking.

Though three starters — ends Wes Stephens and Jeff Thomas and tackle Martez Phelps — return in the defensive line, this group was less than intimidating as pass rushers. Eagerly awaited junior college transfers Anthony Maddox, Brent Walker, Diko Tinch and Terrance King will walk right into regular playing time. Maddox, a 6'2", 275-pound end, had originally signed with Florida State out of high school and turned down offers from Alabama and Ole Miss to come to Murfreesboro. The most pleasant surprise on signing day was Walker, who registered 79 tackles, nine sacks, 12 tackles for loss and seven fumble recoveries at Ventura (Calif.) College in '98, and had committed to Oklahoma State before signing with the Raiders.

The linebacking corps is led by junior Keith Pauldo, who posted a team-high 78 tackles, including 10 for losses, last season. He also tied for the team lead with three sacks. McCollum will make room at one of the linebacker posts for newcomer Marcus Harvey, a 6'3", 235-pound ex-strong safety hitting machine.

Donnelly left the cupboard far from bare in the secondary, with Delvin Pikes, Keith Dollar and Mario Kelso all returning as juniors in '99. Juco Jermaine Francis, an aggressive, physical cover corner with 4.45 speed, and highly regarded freshmen Travis Dunlap and Chris Johnson help fortify the last line of defense.

Placekicker Keegan Ray was 3-of-6 on field goals from 40-49 yards. David Lill and Joey Burstyne ganged up on the punting chores last year, but there is room for improvement.

Depth Chart

OFFENSE (6)

WR	**12**	**Kendall Newson (So., 1)**	87	Ryan Smith (Jr., 0)
LT	**70**	**Kevin Richer (Sr., 2)**	62	Chris Howington (Jr., 1)
LG	**73**	**Tony Edge (Jr., 1)**	78	Anthony Cesario (Fr., 0)
C		Brock Lillis (Jr., 0)	57	Glen Elarbee (Fr., 0)
RG		Gil Matias III (Jr., 0)	75	Jerome Agnew (So., 1)
RT	**67**	**Barry Hall (Jr., 2)**	77	Kevin Pascoe (Fr., 0)
TE		Xavier Hatnot (Jr., 0)	80	Lucas Frost (Fr., 0)
QB	**17**	**Wes Counts (So., 1)**		Fred Smith (Fr., 0)
TB	**2**	**Kelverrick Green (Sr., 3)**	22	Tony Wesley (So., 1)
WR		Nick Payne (Jr., 0)	81	Hansford Johnson (So., 1)
WR		Derrick Yates (Jr., 0)	9	Rashad Cráft (Jr., 1)

DEFENSE (3)

DE		Brent Walker (Jr., 0)	86	Wes Stephens (So., 1)
DT	**64**	**Martez Phelps (Jr., 2)**	92	Carnell Houston (Sr., 1)
DE		Anthony Maddox (Jr., 0)	**89**	**Jeff Thomas (Sr., 3)**
LB	**25**	**Keith Pauldo (Jr., 2)**	47	Bo Browne (Jr., 2)
LB	6	Eugene Shaw (So., 0)	30	Isaiah Brown (Jr., 2)
LB	45	Billy Durham (So., 1)		Marcus Harvey (Jr., 0)
LB	41	Scott Brown (So., 1)	46	Vincent Smith (So., 1)
CB	7	Keith Dollar (Jr., 2)		Jermaine Francis (Jr., 0)
CB	23	Korey Conner (Jr., 1)	11	Kareem Bland (Fr., 0)
SS	24	Delvin Pikes (Jr., 1)		Travis Dunlap (Fr., 0)
FS	26	Mario Kelso (Jr., 1)		Chris Johnson (Fr., 0)

SPECIAL TEAMS

K	49	Keegan Ray (Sr., 3)		
P	35	Joey Burstyne (Jr., 1)	39	David Lill (Sr., 2)
KR	12	Kendall Newson (So., 1)		
PR	12	Kendall Newson (So., 1)		

(#) Indicates number of returning starters
***BOLD** indicates returning starters*
NUMBER after class indicates letters won

Head Coach: Andy McCollum **1998 Record (Div. I-AA): 5-5**
Home Field: Johnny Floyd Stadium (31,000)

Buffalo Bulls

114

For the second time in three seasons, a Division I-AA program is stepping up to I-A and joining the MAC. The success Marshall has had in just two years in the league should prove encouraging to the University of Buffalo, which is back in major college football for the first time since 1970.

One problem.

Buffalo SID

Drew Haddad

Marshall came into I-A off the heels of a I-AA national championship. Buffalo?

Buffalo comes in walking on its heels.

The Bulls were 4–7 as a I-AA independent last year and surrendered nearly 31 points per game to teams like Maine, Cornell, Massachusetts (which scored 51), Western Illinois and Villanova (which scored 65).

Yeah, they were young (54 lettermen return this year), but that's not a harbinger of a Division I defense. The gap between the top I-AA programs and the upper crust of I-A is pretty small (again, look at Marshall).

The gap among the also-rans is Grand Canyon-huge. Bottom line: reality is bound to bite the Bulls square in the fanny.

128.1 Average all-purpose yards for senior Drew Haddad last year, with 82.8 coming on pass receptions.

The first steps in the "new era" of Buffalo football will be clumsy, but the Bulls are still capable of pulling off some upsets. Dates to note: Northern Illinois visits on Oct. 2; there's a trip to punchless Kent on Oct. 30; and Hofstra comes into town on Nov. 6. Dates for masochists only: vs. Marshall on Oct. 23, at Virginia on Nov. 13; at Miami on Nov. 20.

The player to watch on offense is senior Drew Haddad, the school's all-time leader in receptions (155). Last season, the 5'11" Haddad snared 67 balls for 911 yards and five touchdowns. As a sophomore, Haddad set the Buffalo single-season record for receiving yards (1,058).

Haddad also excels as a punt returner. He holds the Buffalo career mark for return yardage (533) and was second in I-AA last year with a 17.2 yard average and ran two punts back for touchdowns, including a school-record 94-yarder against Cornell.

Buffalo usually runs Haddad and Jon Fields as a flanker. Seniors Enrico Pierre will see the most time at split end.

The Buffalo offense has the potential to be potent, but a lot will depend on who's calling the signals. The quarterback derby was wide open this spring when 1998's starter, Chad Salisbury, exhausted his eligibility and the top backup left the team. Senior Erik Rusin opened spring ball as the front-runner, but the Bulls may go with one of three sophomores — Mike Gaydosz, Joe Freedy or Mike Taylor. None of the sophomores, though, has thrown a collegiate pass.

Senior fullback Josh Roth, Buffalo's leading rusher last year (806 yards, 5.1 yards per carry), should team up in the backfield with junior tailback Theron Walker or sophomore Derrick Gordon, who is still recovering from a broken foot suffered last year against Morgan State.

All five starters on the offensive line return, a group that helped Buffalo set a single-season school record with 2,463 rushing yards in 1998.

Three defensive linemen with significant experience lead the front line, including sophomore Bob Dzvonick (47 tackles, 31 solo, and three sacks).

Another sophomore, linebacker Chris Shelly, set a Buffalo freshman record with 80 stops last season. Shelly played at both inside and outside linebacker last season, racking up 11 tackles for loss.

The Bulls are hoping senior linebacker Dan Curcione, who played in only four games last year after a nerve injury to his foot, can return to form and lead a young front seven.

Buffalo was starting three sophomores and a true freshman in the secondary by the end of last season. Junior Eric Pipkins, the strong safety, was a second-team All-Independent I-AA selection last year after tallying 75 tackles, six for loss.

The Bulls' return game is probably the only facet of the team that is already at I-A caliber. With Haddad wreaking havoc, Buffalo led all of I-AA in punt returns(17.8 yards per return). The Bulls also blocked three kicks and have more than 20 blocks the last four years.

Both of Buffalo's kickers return. Junior punter Mike Masucci dumped nine of his 47 punts inside the opponents 20-yard-line. Junior Scott Keller will handle the placekicking duties.

Depth Chart

OFFENSE (8)

SE	4 Enrico Pierre (Sr., 3)	9 Dahnel Singfield (So., 1)
LT	**72 Joe Hattendorf (Sr., 3)**	57 Jermaine Jennings (Jr., 1)
LG	**74 David Pruce (Jr., 2)**	62 C.J. Kintz (So, 1)
C	**70 Dom Monacelli (Sr., 2)**	68 Aaron McMickle (Fr., 0)
RG	**79 Mike Garofalo (Sr., 3)**	66 Tim Hedges (So., 1)
RT	**65 Tom Brown (Sr., 3)**	56 Robert Meyer (Jr., 2)
TE	**86 Gabe Kogler (Jr., 2)**	88 Brandon Shaughnessy (Jr., 2)
QB	14 Erik Rusin (Sr., 3)	13 Mike Gaydosz (So., 1)
FB	**44 Josh Roth (Sr., 3)**	27 Marvin Brereton (So., 1)
TB	31 Derrick Gordon (So., 1)	35 Theron Walker (Jr., 2)
FL	**16 Drew Haddad (Sr., 3)**	80 Jon Fields (Sr., 1)

DEFENSE (6)

DE	92 Eric Campbell (Sr., 2)	37 Jamie Guerra (Fr., 0)
DT	**96 Bob Dzvonick (So., 1)**	69 Jason Hayden (Jr., 2)
DT	**72 Josh Stello (Jr., 2)**	91 Tom Matteson (Sr., 2)
DE	**55 Andre Thomas (Sr., 1)**	75 Rykker Thorne (Jr., 0)
LB	35 Josh Trexler (Sr., 3)	45 Kulaa Bacheyie (Jr., 2)
LB	39 Dan Curcione (Sr., 3)	42 Brandon Jordan (So., 1)
LB	**32 Chris Shelly (So., 1)**	54 Brandon Nishnick (Jr., 2)
CB	**20 Carlos Spencer (Jr., 2)**	33 Youdlain Marcellus (Fr., 0)
CB	47 Tory Smith (Jr., 2)	4 Mike Lambert (Fr., 0)
SS	**23 Eric Pipkins (Jr., 2)**	2 Adolphus Barkor (Sr., 1)
FS	21 Craig Rohlfs (So., 1)	3 Jeff Lawrence (Jr., 2)

SPECIAL TEAMS

K	17 Scott Keller (Jr., 2)
P	85 Mike Masucci (Jr., 2)
KR	31 Derrick Gordon (So., 1)
PR	16 Drew Haddad (Sr., 3)

(#) Indicates number of returning starters
***BOLD** indicates returning starters*
NUMBER after class indicates letters won

Head Coach: Craig Cirbus — **1998 Record (Div. I-AA): 4–7**
1999 Prediction: 7th MAC East — **UB Stadium (31,000)**

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1999 College Schedules

ACC

CLEMSON
CLEMSON, SC
(3–8)

S. 4 Marshall
S.11 Virginia
S.23 at Virginia Tech
O. 2 North Carolina
O. 9 at NC State
O.16 at Maryland
O.23 Florida State
O.30 at Wake Forest
N. 6 Duke
N.13 at Georgia Tech
N.20 at South Carolina

DUKE
DURHAM, NC
(4–7)

S.11 at East Carolina
S.18 Northwestern
S.25 Vanderbilt
O. 2 Florida State
O. 9 at Virginia
O.16 Georgia Tech
O.23 NC State
O.30 at Maryland
N. 6 at Clemson
N.13 Wake Forest
N.20 at North Carolina

FLORIDA STATE
TALLAHASSEE, FL
(11–2)

S. 4 Louisiana Tech
S.11 Georgia Tech
S.18 NC State
S.25 at North Carolina
O. 2 at Duke
O. 9 Miami
O.16 Wake Forest
O.23 at Clemson
O.30 at Virginia
N.13 Maryland
N.20 at Florida

GEORGIA TECH
ATLANTA, GA
(10–2)

S. 4 at Navy
S.11 at Florida State
S.18 Central Florida
S.30 Maryland
O. 9 North Carolina
O.16 at Duke
O.30 NC State
N. 6 at Virginia
N.13 Clemson
N.20 at Wake Forest
N.27 Georgia

MARYLAND
COLLEGE PARK, MD
(3–8)

S. 2 at Temple
S.11 Western Carolina
S.18 West Virginia
S.30 at Georgia Tech
O. 9 at Wake Forest
O.16 Clemson
O.23 North Carolina
O.30 Duke
N. 6 at NC State
N.13 at Florida State
N.20 Virginia

NORTH CAROLINA
CHAPEL HILL, NC
(7–5)

S. 4 Virginia
S.11 at Indiana
S.25 Florida State
O. 2 at Clemson
O. 9 at Georgia Tech
O.16 Houston
O.23 at Maryland
O.30 Furman
N. 6 Wake Forest
N.11 NC State
N.20 Duke

NC STATE
RALEIGH, NC
(7–5)

A.28 at Texas@
S. 4 South Carolina
S.11 William & Mary
S.18 at Florida State
S.25 at Wake Forest
O. 9 Clemson
O.16 Virginia
O.23 at Duke
O.30 at Georgia Tech
N. 6 Maryland
N.11 North Carolina#
N.20 at East Carolina
@BCA Football Classic
Charlotte, NC

VIRGINIA
CHARLOTTESVILLE, VA
(9–3)

S. 4 at North Carolina
S.11 at Clemson
S.18 Wake Forest
S.25 at BYU
O. 2 Virginia Tech
O. 9 Duke
O.16 at NC State
O.30 Florida State
N. 6 Georgia Tech
N.13 Buffalo
N.20 at Maryland

WAKE FOREST
WINSTON-SALEM, NC
(3–8)

S.11 at Army
S.18 at Virginia
S.25 NC State
O. 2 Rutgers
O. 9 Maryland
O.16 at Florida State
O.23 UAB
O.30 Clemson
N. 6 at North Carolina
N.13 at Duke
N.20 Georgia Tech

BIG EAST

BOSTON COLLEGE
CHESTNUT HILL, MA
(4–7)

S. 4 Baylor
S.18 at Navy
S.25 at Rutgers
O. 2 Northeastern
O. 9 at Temple
O.16 Pittsburgh
O.23 Miami
O.30 at Syracuse
N.13 West Virginia
N.20 at Notre Dame
N.26 at Virginia Tech

MIAMI
CORAL GABLES, FL
(9–3)

A.29 Ohio State@
S. 4 Florida A&M
S.18 Penn State
S.25 at East Carolina
O. 9 at Florida State
O.16 Temple
O.23 at Boston College
O.30 West Virginia
N. 6 at Pittsburgh
N.13 at Virginia Tech
N.20 Rutgers
N.27 Syracuse
@Kickoff Classic at Giants Stadium

PITTSBURGH
PITTSBURGH, PA
(2–9)

S. 4 Bowling Green
S.11 at Penn State
S.18 Kent
O. 2 Temple
O. 7 Syracuse
O.16 at Boston College
O.23 at Rutgers
O.30 Virginia Tech
N. 6 Miami
N.13 Notre Dame
N.27 at West Virginia

RUTGERS
NEW BRUNSWICK, NJ
(5–6)

S. 4 at California
S.11 Texas
S.25 Boston College
O. 2 at Wake Forest
O. 9 Virginia Tech
O.16 at West Virginia
O.23 Pittsburgh
O.30 at Temple
N. 6 Navy
N.13 Syracuse
N.20 at Miami

SYRACUSE
SYRACUSE, NY
(8–4)

S. 2 at Toledo
S.11 Central Michigan
S.18 Michigan
S.25 West Virginia
O. 2 Tulane
O. 7 at Pittsburgh
O.16 at Virginia Tech
O.30 Boston College
N. 6 Temple
N.13 at Rutgers
N.27 at Miami

TEMPLE
PHILADELPHIA, PA
(2–9)

S. 2 Maryland
S.11 at Kansas State
S.18 at Akron
S.25 at Marshall
O. 2 at Pittsburgh
O. 9 Boston College
O.16 at Miami
O.23 at West Virginia
O.30 Rutgers
N. 6 at Syracuse
N.20 Virginia Tech

VIRGINIA TECH
BLACKSBURG, VA
(9–3)

S. 4 James Madison
S.11 UAB
S.23 Clemson
O. 2 at Virginia
O. 9 at Rutgers
O.16 Syracuse
O.30 at Pittsburgh
N. 6 at West Virginia
N.13 Miami
N.20 at Temple
N.26 Boston College

WEST VIRGINIA
MORGANTOWN, WV
(8–4)

S. 4 East Carolina@
S.11 Miami (OH)
S.18 at Maryland
S.25 at Syracuse
O. 2 Navy
O.16 Rutgers
O.23 Temple
O.30 at Miami
N. 6 Virginia Tech
N.13 at Boston College
N.27 Pittsburgh
@Charlotte, NC

BIG TEN

ILLINOIS
CHAMPAIGN, IL
(3–8)

S. 4 Arkansas State
S.11 San Diego State
S.18 at Louisville
S.25 Michigan State
O. 2 at Indiana
O.16 Minnesota
O.23 at Michigan
O.30 Penn State
N. 6 at Iowa
N.13 at Ohio State
N.20 Northwestern

INDIANA
BLOOMINGTON, IN
(4–7)

S. 4 Ball State
S.11 North Carolina
S.18 Kentucky
S.25 at Penn State
O. 2 Illinois
O. 9 Northwestern
O.16 at Wisconsin
O.23 at Iowa
O.30 Michigan
N.13 at Minnesota
N.20 Purdue

IOWA
IOWA CITY, IA
(3–8)

S. 4 Nebraska
S.11 at Iowa State
S.18 Northern Illinois
O. 2 at Michigan State
O. 9 Penn State
O.16 at Northwestern
O.23 Indiana
O.30 at Ohio State
N. 6 Illinois
N.13 at Wisconsin
N.20 Minnesota

MICHIGAN
ANN ARBOR, MI
(10–2)

S. 4 Notre Dame
S.11 Rice
S.18 at Syracuse
S.25 at Wisconsin
O. 2 Purdue
O. 9 at Michigan State
O.23 Illinois
O.30 at Indiana
N. 6 Northwestern
N.13 at Penn State
N.20 Ohio State

MICHIGAN STATE
EAST LANSING, MI
(6–6)

S. 2 Oregon
S.11 Eastern Michigan
S.18 at Notre Dame
S.25 at Illinois
O. 2 Iowa
O. 9 Michigan
O.16 at Purdue
O.23 at Wisconsin
N. 6 Ohio State
N.13 at Northwestern
N.20 Penn State

MINNESOTA
MINNEAPOLIS, MN
(5–6)

S. 4 Ohio
S.11 at NE Louisiana
S.18 Illinois State
O. 2 at Northwestern
O. 9 Wisconsin
O.16 at Illinois
O.23 Ohio State
O.30 Purdue
N. 6 at Penn State
N.13 Indiana
N.20 at Iowa

NORTHWESTERN
EVANSTON, IL
(3–9)

S. 4 Miami (Ohio)
S.11 TCU
S.18 at Duke
S.25 at Purdue
O. 2 Minnesota
O. 9 at Indiana
O.16 Iowa
O.30 Wisconsin
N. 6 at Michigan
N.13 Michigan State
N.20 at Illinois

OHIO STATE
COLUMBUS, OH
(11–1)

A.29 Miami@
S.11 UCLA
S.18 Ohio
O. 2 Wisconsin
O. 9 Purdue
O.16 at Penn State
O.23 at Minnesota
O.30 Iowa
N. 6 at Michigan State
N.13 Illinois
N.20 at Michigan
@Kickoff Classic at Giants Stadium

PENN STATE
UNIVERSITY PARK, PA
(9–3)

A.28 Arizona@
S. 4 Akron
S.11 Pittsburgh
S.18 at Miami
S.25 Indiana
O. 9 at Iowa
O.16 Ohio State
O.23 at Purdue
O.30 at Illinois
N. 6 Minnesota
N.13 Michigan
N.20 at Michigan State
@Pigskin Classic

PURDUE
WEST LAFAYETTE, IN
(9–4)

S. 4 at Central Florida
S.11 Notre Dame
S.18 Central Michigan
S.25 Northwestern
O. 2 at Michigan
O. 9 at Ohio State
O.16 Michigan State
O.23 Penn State
O.30 at Minnesota
N. 6 Wisconsin
N.20 at Indiana

WISCONSIN
MADISON, WI
(11–1)

S. 4 Murray State
S.11 Ball State
S.18 at Cincinnati
S.25 Michigan
O. 2 at Ohio State
O. 9 at Minnesota
O.16 Indiana
O.23 Michigan State
O.30 at Northwestern
N. 6 at Purdue
N.13 Iowa

BIG 12

BAYLOR
WACO, TX
(2–9)

S. 4 at Boston College
S.11 UNLV
S.18 at Oklahoma
S.25 Texas
O. 2 North Texas
O. 9 at Texas A&M
O.23 Texas Tech
O.30 at Kansas State
N. 6 at Kansas
N.13 Colorado
N.20 Oklahoma State

COLORADO
BOULDER, CO
(8–4)

S. 4 Colorado State
S.11 San Jose State
S.18 Kansas
S.25 at Washington
O. 9 Missouri
O.16 at Texas Tech
O.23 at Iowa State
O.30 Oklahoma
N. 6 at Kansas State
N.13 at Baylor
N.26 Nebraska

IOWA STATE
AMES, IA
(3–8)

S. 2 Indiana State
S.11 Iowa
S.18 at UNLV
S.25 Kansas State
O. 9 at Nebraska
O.16 at Missouri
O.23 Colorado
O.30 Texas
N. 6 at Texas Tech
N.13 Oklahoma
N.20 at Kansas

KANSAS
LAWRENCE, KS
(4–7)

A.28 at Notre Dame@
S.11 Cal State Northridge
S.18 at Colorado
S.25 San Diego State
O. 2 SMU
O. 9 at Kansas State
O.16 at Texas A&M
O.23 Missouri
O.30 Nebraska
N. 6 Baylor
N.13 at Oklahoma State
N.20 Iowa State
@Eddie Robinson Classic

KANSAS STATE
MANHATTAN, KS
(11–2)

S.11 Temple
S.18 UTEP
S.25 at Iowa State
O. 2 at Texas
O. 9 Kansas
O.16 Utah State
O.23 at Oklahoma State
O.30 Baylor
N. 6 Colorado
N.13 at Nebraska
N.20 Missouri

MISSOURI
COLUMBIA, MO
(8–4)

S. 4 UAB
S.18 Western Michigan
S.25 Nebraska
O. 2 at Memphis
O. 9 at Colorado
O.16 Iowa State
O.23 at Kansas
O.30 Texas Tech
N. 6 at Oklahoma
N.13 Texas A&M
N.20 at Kansas State

NEBRASKA
LINCOLN, NE
(9–4)

S. 4 at Iowa
S.11 California
S.18 Southern Miss
S.25 at Missouri
O. 2 Oklahoma State
O. 9 Iowa State
O.23 at Texas
O.30 at Kansas
N. 6 Texas A&M
N.13 Kansas State
N.26 at Colorado

OKLAHOMA
NORMAN, OK
(5–6)

S.11 Indiana State
S.18 Baylor
S.25 at Louisville
O. 2 at Notre Dame
O. 9 Texas@
O.23 Texas A&M
O.30 at Colorado
N. 6 Missouri
N.13 at Iowa State
N.20 at Texas Tech
N.27 Oklahoma State
@Dallas, TX

OKLAHOMA STATE
STILLWATER, OK
(5–6)

S. 4 USL
S.11 Tulsa
S.18 at Mississippi State
O. 2 at Nebraska
O. 9 Texas Tech
O.23 Kansas State
O.30 at Texas A&M
N. 6 Texas
N.13 Kansas
N.20 at Baylor
N.27 at Oklahoma

TEXAS
AUSTIN, TX
(9–3)

A.28 NC State@
S. 4 Stanford
S.11 at Rutgers
S.18 Rice
S.25 at Baylor
O. 2 Kansas State
O. 9 Oklahoma&
O.23 Nebraska
O.30 at Iowa State
N. 6 at Oklahoma State
N.13 at Iowa State
N.26 at Texas A&M
@BCA Football Classic
&Dallas, TX

TEXAS A&M
COLLEGE STATION, TX
(11–3)

S. 4 at Louisiana Tech
S.18 Tulsa
S.25 Southern Miss
O. 2 at Texas Tech
O. 9 Baylor
O.16 Kansas
O.23 at Oklahoma
O.30 Oklahoma State
N. 6 at Nebraska
N.13 at Missouri
N.26 Texas

TEXAS TECH
LUBBOCK, TX
(7–5)

S. 4 at Arizona State
S.11 at USL
S.18 North Texas
O. 2 Texas A&M
O. 9 at Oklahoma State
O.16 Colorado
O.23 at Baylor
O.30 at Missouri
N. 6 Iowa State
N.13 at Texas
N.20 Oklahoma

BIG WEST

ARKANSAS STATE
JONESBORO, AR
(4–8)

S. 4 at Illinois
S.11 at Mississippi
S.18 at Memphis
S.25 TCU
O. 2 Sam Houston
O. 9 at Utah State
O.16 Idaho
O.23 at North Texas
O.30 USL
N. 6 at Boise State
N.13 Nevada

BOISE STATE
BOISE, ID
(6–5)

S. 4 at UCLA
S.11 Southern Utah
S.18 at Hawaii
S.25 New Mexico
O. 2 Utah
O. 9 Eastern Washington
O.16 at North Texas
O.23 Nevada
O.30 at Utah State
N. 6 Arkansas State
N.13 New Mexico State
N.20 at Idaho

IDAHO
MOSCOW, ID
(9–3)

S.11 at Auburn
S.18 at Washington State
O. 2 at Wyoming
O. 9 North Texas
O.16 at Arkansas State
O.23 Utah State
O.30 at New Mexico State
N. 6 at Nevada
N.13 at Montana
N.20 Boise State

NEVADA
RENO, NV
(6–5)

S. 2 Oregon State
S.11 at Colorado State
S.18 at Oregon
S.25 Fresno State
O. 2 UNLV
O. 9 at New Mexico State
O.23 at Boise State
O.30 North Texas
N. 6 Idaho
N.13 at Arkansas State
N.20 Utah State

NEW MEXICO STATE
LAS CRUCES, NM
(3–8)

S. 4 New Mexico Highlands
S.11 at New Mexico
S.18 at Arizona State
S.25 at UTEP
O. 2 at Colorado State
O. 9 Nevada
O.23 at Army
O.30 Idaho
N. 6 at Utah State
N.13 at Boise State
N.20 North Texas

NORTH TEXAS
DENTON, TX
(3–8)

S. 2 UNLV
S.11 at LSU
S.18 at Texas Tech
O. 2 at Baylor
O. 9 at Idaho
O.16 Boise State
O.23 Arkansas State
O.30 at Nevada
N.13 at TCU
N.20 at New Mexico State
N.27 Utah State

UTAH STATE
LOGAN, UT
(3–8)

S. 4 at Georgia
S.11 Stephen F. Austin
S.18 at Utah
O. 1 BYU
O. 9 Arkansas State
O.16 at Kansas State
O.23 at Idaho
O.30 Boise State
N. 6 New Mexico State
N.20 at Nevada
N.27 at North Texas

C-USA

ARMY
WEST POINT, NY
(3–8)

S.11 Wake Forest
S.18 at Tulane
S.25 Ball State
O. 2 East Carolina
O. 7 Louisville
O.16 at Southern Miss
O.23 New Mexico State
N. 6 at Air Force
N.13 at Memphis
N.20 Houston
D. 4 Navy@
@Philadelphia, PA

CINCINNATI
CINCINNATI, OH
(2–9)

S. 4 Kent
S.11 Troy State
S.18 Wisconsin
S.25 at Ohio State
O. 9 at Houston
O.16 UAB
O.23 at Southern Miss
O.30 at Miami (Ohio)
N. 6 Louisville
N.13 at East Carolina
N.20 Memphis

EAST CAROLINA
GREENVILLE, NC
(6–5)

S. 4 West Virginia@
S.11 Duke
S.18 at South Carolina
S.25 Miami
O. 2 at Army
O. 9 Southern Miss
O.23 Tulane
O.30 at Houston
N. 6 at UAB
N.13 Cincinnati
N.20 NC State
@Charlotte, N.C.

HOUSTON
HOUSTON, TX
(3–8)

S. 4 Rice
S.11 at Alabama
S.18 USL
S.25 at UAB
O. 9 Cincinnati
O.16 at North Carolina
O.23 at Louisville
O.30 East Carolina
N. 6 Tulane
N.13 at LSU
N.20 at Army

LOUISVILLE
LOUISVILLE, KY
(7–5)

S. 4 at Kentucky
S.11 Chattanooga
S.18 Illinois
S.25 Oklahoma
O. 2 Eastern Michigan
O. 7 at Army
O.16 at Memphis
O.23 Houston
O.30 UAB
N. 6 at Cincinnati
N.20 Southern Miss

MEMPHIS
MEMPHIS, TN
(2–9)

S. 4 Ole Miss
S.11 at Mississippi State
S.18 Arkansas State
S.25 at Tennessee
O. 2 Missouri
O. 9 at UAB
O.16 Louisville
O.30 at Tulane
N. 6 Southern Miss
N.13 Army
N.20 at Cincinnati

SOUTHERN MISS
HATTIESBURG, MS
(7–5)

S. 4 Tulane
S.11 Northwestern St.
S.18 at Nebraska
S.25 at Texas A&M
O. 9 at East Carolina
O.16 Army
O.23 Cincinnati
O.30 at Alabama
N. 6 at Memphis
N.13 USL
N.20 at Louisville

TULANE
NEW ORLEANS, LA
(12–0)

S. 4 at Southern Miss
S.11 SMU
S.18 Army
O. 2 at Syracuse
O. 9 at Mississippi
O.16 USL
O.23 at East Carolina
O.30 Memphis
N. 6 at Houston
N.13 at Navy
N.20 UAB

UAB
BIRMINGHAM, AL
(4–7)

S. 4 at Missouri
S.11 at Virginia Tech
S.25 Houston
O. 2 NE Louisiana
O. 9 Memphis
O.16 at Cincinnati
O.23 at Wake Forest
O.30 at Louisville
N. 6 East Carolina
N.13 Louisiana Tech
N.20 at Tulane

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MID-AMERICAN

AKRON
AKRON, OH
(4–7)

S. 4 at Penn State
S.11 at Buffalo
S.18 Temple
S.25 at Eastern Michigan
O. 2 at Ball State
O. 9 Ohio
O.16 Bowling Green
O.23 at Navy
O.30 Western Michigan
N. 6 at Miami (Ohio)
N.13 Kent

BALL STATE
MUNCIE, IN
(1–10)

S. 4 at Indiana
S.11 at Wisconsin
S.18 Toledo
S.25 at Army
O. 2 Akron
O. 9 at Northern Illinois
O.23 at Western Michigan
O.30 Ohio
N. 6 at Eastern Michigan
N.13 at Bowling Green
N.20 Central Michigan

BOWLING GREEN
BOWLING GREEN, OH
(5–6)

S. 4 at Pittsburgh
S.11 Tennessee Tech
S.18 at Marshall
S.25 at Kent
O. 2 Toledo
O. 9 Miami (Ohio)
O.16 at Akron
O.23 at Ohio
O.30 Central Michigan
N.13 Ball State
N.20 at Central Florida

BUFFALO
BUFFALO, NY
(4–7)

S.11 Akron
S.18 at Connecticut
S.25 at Ohio
O. 2 Northern Illinois
O. 9 Central Michigan
O.16 at Western Michigan
O.23 Marshall
O.30 at Kent
N. 6 Hofstra
N.13 at Virginia
N.20 at Miami (Ohio)

CENTRAL MICHIGAN
MT. PLEASANT, MI
(6–5)

S. 2 Eastern Illinois
S.11 at Syracuse
S.18 at Purdue
S.25 Miami (Ohio)
O. 2 at Western Michigan
O. 9 at Buffalo
O.16 Northern Illinois
O.30 at Bowling Green
N. 6 Toledo
N.13 Eastern Michigan
N.20 at Ball State

EASTERN MICHIGAN
YPSILANTI, MI
(3–8)

S.11 at Michigan State
S.18 at Miami (Ohio)
S.25 Akron
O. 2 at Louisville
O. 9 Western Michigan
O.16 Ohio
O.23 at Toledo
O.30 at Central Florida
N. 6 Ball State
N.13 at Central Michigan
N.20 at Northern Illinois

KENT
KENT, OH
(0–11)

S. 4 at Cincinnati
S.11 Navy
S.18 at Pittsburgh
S.25 Bowling Green
O. 2 at Ohio
O.16 Miami (Ohio)
O.23 at Northern Illinois
O.30 Buffalo
N. 6 Marshall
N.13 at Akron

MARSHALL
HUNTINGTON, WV
(12–1)

S. 4 at Clemson
S.11 Liberty
S.18 Bowling Green
S.25 Temple
O. 2 at Miami (Ohio)
O.16 Toledo
O.23 at Buffalo
O.30 Northern Illinois
N. 6 at Kent
N.13 at Western Michigan
N.20 Ohio

MIAMI (OHIO)
OXFORD, OH
(10–1)

S. 4 at Northwestern
S.11 at West Virginia
S.18 Eastern Michigan
S.25 at Central Michigan
O. 2 Marshall
O. 9 at Bowling Green
O.16 at Kent
O.30 Cincinnati
N. 6 Akron
N.13 at Ohio
N.20 Buffalo

NO. ILLINOIS
DEKALB, IL
(2–9)

S. 2 Western Illinois
S.11 at Vanderbilt
S.18 at Iowa
S.25 Western Michigan
O. 2 at Buffalo
O. 9 Ball State
O.16 at Central Michigan
O.23 Kent
O.30 at Marshall
N.13 at Toledo
N.20 Eastern Michigan

OHIO
ATHENS, OH
(5–6)

S. 4 at Minnesota
S.11 Northern Iowa
S.18 at Ohio State
S.25 Buffalo
O. 2 Kent
O. 9 at Akron
O.16 at Eastern Michigan
O.23 Bowling Green
O.30 at Ball State
N.13 Miami (Ohio)
N.20 at Marshall

TOLEDO
TOLEDO, OH
(7–5)

S. 2 Syracuse
S.18 at Ball State
S.25 Massachusetts
O. 2 at Bowling Green
O. 9 Kent
O.16 at Marshall
O.23 Eastern Michigan
O.30 Louisiana Tech
N. 6 at Central Michigan
N.13 Northern Illinois
N.20 Western Michigan

WESTERN MICHIGAN
KALAMAZOO, MI
(7–4)

S. 4 at Florida
S.11 Youngstown State
S.18 at Missouri
S.25 at Northern Illinois
O. 2 Central Michigan
O. 9 at Eastern Michigan
O.16 Buffalo
O.23 Ball State
O.30 at Akron
N.13 Marshall
N.20 at Toledo

MOUNTAIN WEST

AIR FORCE
COLO. SPRINGS, CO
(12–1)

S. 4 Villanova
S.18 at Washington
S.25 Wyoming
O. 2 at San Diego State
O. 9 at Navy
O.16 Utah
O.30 at BYU
N. 6 Army
N.13 UNLV
N.20 at Colorado State
N.27 at New Mexico

BYU
PROVO, UT
(9–5)

S. 9 Washington
S.16 Colorado State
S.25 Virginia
O. 1 at Utah State
O. 9 California
O.16 at New Mexico
O.23 at UNLV
O.30 Air Force
N. 6 at San Diego State
N.13 at Wyoming
N.27 Utah

COLORADO STATE
FORT COLLINS, CO
(8–4)

S. 4 at Colorado
S.11 Nevada
S.16 at BYU
O. 2 New Mexico State
O. 9 at Fresno State
O.16 San Diego State
O.23 at Wyoming
O.30 Utah
N. 6 at New Mexico
N.20 Air Force
N.27 at UNLV

NEW MEXICO
ALBUQUERQUE, NM
(3–9)

S. 4 at UTEP
S.11 New Mexico State
S.18 Northern Arizona
S.25 at Boise State
O. 9 at San Diego State
O.16 BYU
O.30 UNLV
N. 6 Colorado State
N.13 at Utah
N.20 at Wyoming
N.27 Air Force

SAN DIEGO STATE
SAN DIEGO, CA
(7–5)

S. 4 South Florida
S.11 at Illinois
S.18 at USC
S.25 at Kansas
O. 2 Air Force
O. 9 New Mexico
O.16 at Colorado State
O.23 at Utah
N. 6 BYU
N.20 at UNLV
N.27 Wyoming

UNLV
LAS VEGAS, NV
(0–11)

S. 2 at North Texas
S.11 at Baylor
S.18 Iowa State
S.25 Utah
O. 2 at Nevada
O. 9 at Wyoming
O.23 BYU
O.30 at New Mexico
N.13 at Air Force
N.20 San Diego State
N.27 Colorado State

UTAH
SALT LAKE CITY, UT
(7–4)

S. 4 at Washington State
S.18 Utah State
S.25 at UNLV
O. 2 at Boise State
O. 9 NE Louisiana
O.16 at Air Force
O.23 San Diego State
O.30 at Colorado State
N. 6 Wyoming
N.13 New Mexico
N.27 at BYU

WYOMING
LARAMIE, WY
(8–3)

S. 4 at Tennessee
S.11 Weber State
S.25 at Air Force
O. 2 Idaho
O. 9 UNLV
O.16 at NE Louisiana
O.23 Colorado State
N. 6 at Utah
N.13 BYU
N.20 New Mexico
N.27 at San Diego State

PAC TEN

ARIZONA
TUCSON, AZ
(12–1)

A.28 at Penn State@
S. 4 at TCU
S.11 Middle Tennessee
S.18 Stanford
S.25 at Washington State
O. 9 USC
O.16 UTEP
O.23 Oregon
O.30 at UCLA
N. 6 Washington
N.13 at Oregon State
N.26 at Arizona State
@Pigskin Classic

ARIZONA STATE
TEMPE, AZ
(5–6)

S. 4 Texas Tech
S.18 New Mexico State
S.25 at California
O. 2 UCLA
O. 9 at Notre Dame
O.16 at Washington
O.23 Washington State
O.30 at Oregon
N. 6 at USC
N.13 Stanford
N.26 Arizona

CALIFORNIA
BERKELEY, CA
(5–6)

S. 4 Rutgers
S.11 at Nebraska
S.25 Arizona State
O. 2 at Washington State
O. 9 at BYU
O.16 at UCLA
O.23 Washington
O.30 USC
N. 6 at Oregon State
N.13 Oregon
N.20 at Stanford

OREGON
EUGENE, OR
(8–4)

S. 2 at Michigan State
S.11 UTEP
S.18 Nevada
S.25 USC
O. 2 at Washington
O. 9 at UCLA
O.23 at Arizona
O.30 Arizona State
N. 6 Washington State
N.13 at California
N.20 Oregon State

OREGON STATE
CORVALLIS, OR
(5–6)

S. 4 at Nevada
S.11 Fresno State
S.18 Georgia Southern
O. 2 at USC
O. 9 Washington
O.16 at Stanford
O.23 UCLA
O.30 at Washington State
N. 6 California
N.13 Arizona
N.20 at Oregon

STANFORD
STANFORD, CA
(3–8)

S. 4 at Texas
S.11 Washington State
S.18 at Arizona
S.25 UCLA
O. 2 San Jose State
O.16 Oregon State
O.23 at USC
O.30 at Washington
N.13 at Arizona State
N.20 California
N.27 Notre Dame

USC
LOS ANGELES, CA
(8–5)

S. 4 at Hawaii
S.18 San Diego State
S.25 at Oregon
O. 2 Oregon State
O. 9 at Arizona
O.16 at Notre Dame
O.23 Stanford
O.30 at California
N. 6 Arizona State
N.13 at Washington State
N.20 UCLA
N.26 Louisiana Tech

UCLA
LOS ANGELES, CA
(10–2)

S. 4 Boise State
S.11 at Ohio State
S.18 Fresno State
S.25 at Stanford
O. 2 at Arizona State
O. 9 Oregon
O.16 California
O.23 at Oregon State
O.30 Arizona
N.13 Washington
N.20 at USC

WASHINGTON
SEATTLE, WA
(6–6)

S. 9 at BYU
S.18 Air Force
S.25 Colorado
O. 2 Oregon
O. 9 at Oregon State
O.16 Arizona State
O.23 at California
O.30 Stanford
N. 6 at Arizona
N.13 at UCLA
N.20 Washington State

WASHINGTON STATE
PULLMAN, WA
(3–8)

S. 4 Utah
S.11 at Stanford
S.18 at Idaho
S.25 Arizona
O. 2 California
O. 9 USL
O.23 at Arizona State
O.30 Oregon State
N. 6 at Oregon
N.13 USC
N.20 at Washington
N.27 at Hawaii

SOUTHEASTERN

ALABAMA
TUSCALOOSA, AL
(7–5)

S. 4 at Vanderbilt
S.11 Houston@
S.18 Louisiana Tech@
S.25 Arkansas
O. 2 at Florida
O.16 at Ole Miss
O.23 Tennessee
O.30 Southern Miss
N. 6 LSU
N.13 Mississippi State
N.20 at Auburn
@Birmingham, AL

ARKANSAS
FAYETTEVILLE, AR
(9–3)

S. 4 at SMU
S.18 NE Louisiana@
S.25 at Alabama
O. 2 at Kentucky
O. 9 Middle Tennessee
O.16 South Carolina@
O.30 Auburn
N. 6 at Ole Miss
N.13 Tennessee
N.20 Mississippi State@
N.27 at LSU
@Little Rock, AR

AUBURN
AUBURN, AL
(3–8)

S. 4 Appalachian State
S.11 Idaho
S.18 at LSU
S.25 Ole Miss
O. 2 at Tennessee
O. 9 Mississippi State
O.16 Florida
O.30 at Arkansas
N. 6 Central Florida
N.13 at Georgia
N.20 Alabama

FLORIDA
GAINESVILLE, FL
(10–2)

S. 4 Western Michigan
S.11 Central Florida
S.18 Tennessee
S.25 at Kentucky
O. 2 Alabama
O. 9 at LSU
O.16 at Auburn
O.30 Georgia@
N. 6 Vanderbilt
N.13 at South Carolina
N.20 Florida State
@Jacksonville, FL

GEORGIA
ATHENS, GA
(9–3)

S. 4 Utah State
S.11 South Carolina
S.25 Central Florida
O. 2 LSU
O. 9 at Tennessee
O.16 at Vanderbilt
O.23 Kentucky
O.30 Florida@
N.13 Auburn
N.20 at Ole Miss
N.27 at Georgia Tech
@Jacksonville, FL

KENTUCKY
LEXINGTON, KY
(7–5)

S. 4 Louisville
S.11 Connecticut
S.18 at Indiana
S.25 Florida
O. 2 Arkansas
O. 9 at South Carolina
O.16 LSU
O.23 at Georgia
N. 4 at Mississippi State
N.13 at Vanderbilt
N.20 Tennessee

LSU
BATON ROUGE, LA
(4–7)

S. 4 San Jose State
S.11 North Texas
S.18 Auburn
O. 2 at Georgia
O. 9 Florida
O.16 at Kentucky
O.23 at Mississippi State
O.30 Ole Miss
N. 6 at Alabama
N.13 Houston
N.27 Arkansas

OLE MISS
OXFORD, MS
(7–5)

S. 4 at Memphis
S.11 Arkansas State
S.18 Vanderbilt
S.25 at Auburn
O. 2 at South Carolina
O. 9 Tulane
O.16 Alabama
O.30 at LSU
N. 6 Arkansas
N.20 Georgia
N.27 at Mississippi State

MISSISSIPPI STATE
STARKVILLE, MS
(8–5)

S. 4 Middle Tennessee
S.11 Memphis
S.18 Oklahoma State
S.25 South Carolina
O. 2 at Vanderbilt
O. 9 at Auburn
O.23 LSU
N. 4 Kentucky
N.13 at Alabama
N.20 at Arkansas
N.25 Ole Miss

SOUTH CAROLINA
COLUMBIA, SC
(1–10)

S. 4 at NC State
S.11 at Georgia
S.18 East Carolina
S.25 at Mississippi State
O. 2 Ole Miss
O. 9 Kentucky
O.16 at Arkansas
O.23 Vanderbilt
O.30 at Tennessee
N.13 Florida
N.20 Clemson

TENNESSEE
KNOXVILLE, TN
(13–0)

S. 4 Wyoming
S.18 at Florida
S.25 Memphis
O. 2 Auburn
O. 9 Georgia
O.23 at Alabama
O.30 South Carolina
N. 6 Notre Dame
N.13 at Arkansas
N.20 at Kentucky
N.27 Vanderbilt

VANDERBILT
NASHVILLE, TN
(2–9)

S. 4 Alabama
S.11 Northern Illinois
S.18 at Ole Miss
S.25 at Duke
O. 2 Mississippi State
O. 9 The Citadel
O.16 Georgia
O.23 at South Carolina
N. 6 at Florida
N.13 Kentucky
N.27 at Tennessee

WAC

FRESNO STATE
FRESNO, CA
(5–6)

S. 4 Portland State
S.11 at Oregon State
S.18 at UCLA
S.25 at Nevada
O. 2 TCU
O. 9 Colorado State
O.16 at SMU
O.23 UTEP
O.30 at Tulsa
N. 6 Rice
N.13 at Hawaii
N.20 San Jose State

HAWAII
HONOLULU, HI
(0–12)

S. 4 USC
S.11 Eastern Illinois
S.18 Boise State
S.25 at SMU
O. 2 UTEP
O. 9 Rice
O.23 at Tulsa
O.30 TCU
N. 6 at San Jose State
N.13 Fresno State
N.20 Navy
N.27 Washington State

RICE
HOUSTON, TX
(5–6)

S. 4 at Houston
S.11 at Michigan
S.18 at Texas
S.25 Navy
O. 2 at Tulsa
O. 9 at Hawaii
O.16 San Jose State
O.23 TCU
O.30 at SMU
N. 6 at Fresno State
N.13 UTEP

SAN JOSE STATE
SAN JOSE, CA
(4–8)

S. 4 at LSU
S.11 at Colorado
S.18 St. Mary's (Calif.)
S.25 Tulsa
O. 2 at Stanford
O. 9 at TCU
O.16 at Rice
O.23 SMU
O.30 at UTEP
N. 6 Hawaii
N.20 at Fresno State

SMU
DALLAS, TX
(5–7)

S. 4 Arkansas
S.11 at Tulane
S.25 Hawaii
O. 2 at Kansas
O. 9 at UTEP
O.16 Fresno State
O.23 at San Jose State
O.30 Rice
N. 6 at TCU
N.13 Cal State-Northridge
N.20 at Tulsa

TCU
FORT WORTH, TX
(7–5)

S. 4 Arizona
S.11 at Northwestern
S.25 at Arkansas State
O. 2 at Fresno State
O. 9 San Jose State
O.16 Tulsa
O.23 at Rice
O.30 at Hawaii
N. 6 SMU
N.13 North Texas
N.20 UTEP

TULSA
TULSA, OK
(4–7)

S. 4 SW Missouri State
S.11 at Oklahoma State
S.18 at Texas A&M
S.25 at San Jose State
O. 2 Rice
O.16 at TCU
O.23 Hawaii
O.30 Fresno State
N. 6 at UTEP
N.13 NE Louisiana
N.20 SMU

UTEP
EL PASO, TX
(3–8)

S. 4 New Mexico
S.11 at Oregon
S.18 at Kansas State
S.25 New Mexico State
O. 2 at Hawaii
O. 9 SMU
O.16 at Arizona
O.23 at Fresno State
O.30 San Jose State
N. 6 Tulsa
N.13 at Rice
N.20 at TCU

I-A INDEPENDENTS

CENTRAL FLORIDA
ORLANDO, FL
(9–2)

S. 4 Purdue
S.11 at Florida
S.18 at Georgia Tech
S.25 at Georgia
O. 2 Eastern Illinois
O.16 Nicholls State
O.23 Louisiana Tech
O.30 Eastern Michigan
N. 6 at Auburn
N.13 at Middle Tennessee
N.20 Bowling Green

LOUISIANA TECH
RUSTON, LA
(6–6)

A.28 at Florida State
S. 4 Texas A&M
S.11 Sam Houston State
S.18 at Alabama@
O. 2 at USL
O.16 Middle Tennessee
O.23 at Central Florida
O.30 at Toledo
N. 6 NE Louisiana
N.13 at UAB
N.26 at USC
@Birmingham, AL

MIDDLE TENNESSEE
MURFREESBORO, TN
(5–5)

S. 4 at Mississippi State
S.11 at Arizona
S.18 Wofford
S.25 at USL
O. 2 Troy State
O. 9 at Arkansas
O.16 at Louisiana Tech
O.30 at NE Louisiana
N. 6 Tennessee-Martin
N.13 Central Florida
N.20 East Tennessee

NAVY
ANNAPOLIS, MD
(3–8)

S. 4 Georgia Tech
S.11 at Kent
S.18 Boston College
S.25 at Rice
O. 2 at West Virginia
O. 9 Air Force
O.23 Akron
O.30 at Notre Dame
N. 6 at Rutgers
N.13 Tulane
N.20 at Hawaii
D. 4 Army@
@Philadelphia, PA

NE LOUISIANA
MONROE, LA
(5–6)

S. 4 Nicholls State
S.11 at Minnesota
S.18 at Arkansas
S.25 Northwestern State
O. 2 at UAB
O. 9 at Utah
O.16 Wyoming
O.23 at USL
O.30 Middle Tennessee
N. 6 at Louisiana Tech
N.13 at Tulsa

NOTRE DAME
SOUTH BEND, IN
(9–3)

A. 28 Kansas@
S. 4 at Michigan
S.11 at Purdue
S.18 Michigan State
O. 2 Oklahoma
O. 9 Arizona State
O.16 USC
O.30 Navy
N. 6 at Tennessee
N.13 at Pittsburgh
N.20 Boston College
N.27 at Stanford
@Eddie Robinson Classic

USL
LAFAYETTE, LA
(2–9)

S. 4 at Oklahoma State
S.11 Texas Tech
S.18 at Houston
S. 25 Middle Tennessee
O. 2 Louisiana Tech
O. 9 at Washington State
O.16 at Tulane
O.23 NE Louisiana
O.30 at Arkansas State
N.13 at Southern Miss
N.20 Wofford

ATLANTIC 10

CONNECTICUT
STORRS, CT
(10–3)

S. 4 at Hofstra
S.11 at Kentucky
S.18 Buffalo
S.25 at Maine
O. 2 Rhode Island
O.16 Villanova
O.23 at James Madison
O.30 Richmond
N. 6 Northeastern
N.13 New Hampshire
N.20 at Massachusetts

DELAWARE
NEWARK, DE
(7–4)

S. 2 William & Mary
S.11 at The Citadel
S.18 West Chester
S.25 at James Madison
O. 2 Richmond
O.16 Lehigh
O.23 Massachusetts
O.30 at Northeastern
N. 6 at New Hampshire
N.13 Rhode Island
N.20 at Villanova

JAMES MADISON
HARRISONBURG, VA
(3–8)

S. 4 at Virginia Tech
S.11 Northeastern
S.18 at New Hampshire
S.25 Delaware
O. 2 at Villanova
O.16 at William & Mary
O.23 Connecticut
O.30 South Florida
N. 6 at Maine
N.13 Richmond
N.20 at Hofstra

MAINE
ORONO, ME
(6–5)

S. 4 at Colgate
S.11 Hofstra
S.18 Richmond
S.25 Connecticut
O. 2 McNeese State
O.16 Massachusetts
O.23 at Rhode Island
O.30 at William & Mary
N. 6 James Madison
N.13 at Northeastern
N.20 at New Hampshire

MASSACHUSETTS
AMHERST, MA
(12–3)

S.11 New Hampshire
S.18 at Villanova
S.25 at Toledo
O. 2 Hofstra
O. 9 Northeastern
O.16 at Maine
O.23 at Delaware
O.30 Rhode Island
N. 6 at Richmond
N.13 at William & Mary
N.20 Connecticut

NEW HAMPSHIRE
DURHAM, NH
(4–7)

S. 4 at Rhode Island
S.11 at Massachusetts
S.18 James Madison
S.25 at Richmond
O. 2 Stephen F. Austin
O.16 at Northeastern
O.23 at South Florida
O.30 Villanova
N. 6 Delaware
N.13 at Connecticut
N.20 Maine

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NORTHEASTERN
BOSTON, MA
(5–6)

S. 4 AIC
S.11 at James Madison
S.25 William & Mary
O. 2 at Boston College
O. 9 at Massachusetts
O.16 New Hampshire
O.23 at Villanova
O.30 Delaware
N. 6 at Connecticut
N.13 Maine
N.20 at Rhode Island

RHODE ISLAND
KINGSTON, RI
(3–8)

S. 4 New Hampshire
S.18 Hofstra
S.25 Morgan State
O. 2 at Connecticut
O. 9 at Richmond
O.16 at Brown
O.23 Maine
O.30 at Massachusetts
N. 6 William & Mary
N.13 at Delaware
N.20 Northeastern

RICHMOND
RICHMOND, VA
(9–3)

S. 4 VMI
S.11 Villanova
S.18 at Maine
S.25 New Hampshire
O. 2 at Delaware
O. 9 Rhode Island
O.16 at Hofstra
O.30 at Connecticut
N. 6 Massachusetts
N.13 at James Madison
N.20 William & Mary

VILLANOVA
PHILADELPHIA, PA
(6–5)

S. 4 at Air Force
S.11 at Richmond
S.18 Massachusetts
S.25 at Pennsylvania
O. 2 James Madison
O. 9 at William & Mary
O.16 at Connecticut
O.23 Northeastern
O.30 at New Hampshire
N.13 Youngstown State
N.20 Delaware

WILLIAM & MARY
WILLIAMSBURG, VA
(7–4)

S. 2 at Delaware
S.11 at NC State
S.18 Furman
S.25 at Northeastern
O. 9 Villanova
O.16 James Madison
O.23 at VMI
O.30 Maine
N. 6 at Rhode Island
N.13 Massachusetts
N.20 at Richmond

BIG SKY

CAL ST.-NORTHRIDGE
NORTHRIDGE, CA
(7–4)

S. 4 Western Oregon
S.11 at Kansas
S.25 at Eastern Washington
O. 2 Idaho State
O. 9 at Montana
O.16 Cal St.-Sacramento
O.23 at Montana State
O.30 Weber State
N. 6 at Portland State
N.13 at SMU
N.20 Northern Arizona

CAL ST.-SACRAMENTO
SACRAMENTO, CA
(5–6)

S. 4 St. Mary's
S.11 at Montana
S.18 UC Davis
S.25 Montana State
O. 2 at Weber State
O. 9 Portland State
O.16 at Cal St.-Northridge
O.23 Northern Arizona
O.30 at Eastern Washington
N. 6 Idaho State
N.20 at Cal Poly-SLO

E. WASHINGTON
CHENEY, WA
(5–6)

S.11 Central Washington
S.18 at Portland State
S.25 Cal St.-Northridge
O. 2 at Northern Arizona
O. 9 at Boise State
O.16 Idaho State
O.23 at Montana
O.30 Cal St.-Sacramento
N. 6 at Montana State
N.13 Weber State
N.20 Southern Utah

IDAHO STATE
POCATELLO, ID
(3–8)

S. 4 Eastern Oregon
S.11 Ft. Lewis
S.18 at Weber State
S.25 Portland State
O. 2 at Cal St.-Northridge
O. 9 Northern Arizona
O.16 at Eastern Washington
O.23 at Southern Utah
O.30 Montana
N. 6 at Cal St.-Sacramento
N.13 Montana State

MONTANA
MISSOULA, MT
(8–4)

S. 4 South Dakota
S.11 Cal St.-Sacramento
S.25 Weber State
O. 2 at Portland State
O. 9 Cal St.-Northridge
O.16 at Northern Arizona
O.23 Eastern Washington
O.30 at Idaho State
N. 6 at Cal Poly-SLO
N.13 Idaho
N.20 at Montana State

MONTANA STATE
BOZEMAN, MT
(7–4)

S. 4 Chadron State
S.11 Western New Mexico
S.18 at Cal Poly-SLO
S.25 at Cal St.-Sacramento
O. 9 Weber State
O.16 at Portland State
O.23 Cal St.-Northridge
O.30 at Northern Arizona
N. 6 Eastern Washington
N.13 at Idaho State
N.20 Montana

NORTHERN ARIZONA
FLAGSTAFF, AZ
(7–4)

S. 4 Cal Poly-SLO
S.18 at New Mexico
S.25 at SW Texas State
O. 2 Eastern Washington
O. 9 at Idaho State
O.16 Montana
O.23 at Cal St.-Sacramento
O.30 Montana State
N. 6 at Weber State
N.13 Portland State
N.20 at Cal St.-Northridge

PORTLAND STATE
PORTLAND, OR
(5–6)

S. 4 at Fresno State
S.11 Western Washington
S.18 Eastern Washington
S.25 at Idaho State
O. 2 Montana
O. 9 at Cal St.-Sacramento
O.16 Montana State
O.23 at Weber State
O.30 at Cal Poly-SLO
N. 6 Cal St.-Northridge
N.13 at Northern Arizona

WEBER STATE
OGDEN, UT
(6–5)

S. 2 Western State (CO)
S.11 at Wyoming
S.18 Idaho State
S.25 at Montana
O. 2 Cal St.-Sacramento
O. 9 at Montana State
O.16 Southern Utah
O.23 Portland State
O.30 at Cal St.-Northridge
N. 6 Northern Arizona
N.13 at Eastern Washington

GATEWAY

ILLINOIS STATE
NORMAL, IL
(8–4)

S. 2 Truman State
S.11 SE Missouri
S.18 at Minnesota
S.25 at SW Missouri State
O. 2 Northern Iowa
O. 9 Indiana State
O.16 at South Florida
O.23 at Southern Illinois
O.30 at Youngstown State
N. 6 Western Illinois
N.13 at Eastern Illinois

INDIANA STATE
TERRE HAUTE, IN
(5–6)

S. 2 at Iowa State
S.11 at Oklahoma
S.18 at Eastern Kentucky
O. 2 Youngstown State
O. 9 at Illinois State
O.16 SE Missouri
O.23 Western Illinois
O.30 at Northern Iowa
N. 6 Southern Illinois
N.13 Western Kentucky
N.20 at SW Missouri State

NORTHERN IOWA
CEDAR FALLS, IA
(7–4)

S. 4 at McNeese State
S.11 at Ohio
S.18 Central Washington
S.25 Southern Illinois
O. 2 at Illinois State
O. 9 Cal Poly-SLO
O.16 at SW Missouri State
O.23 Youngstown State
O.30 Indiana State
N.13 at Western Illinois
N.20 Southwest State

SOUTHERN ILLINOIS
CARBONDALE, IL
(3–8)

S. 2 at SE Missouri
S.11 Murray State
S.18 at Eastern Illinois
S.25 at Northern Iowa
O. 2 at South Florida
O. 9 Youngstown State
O.16 at Western Illinois
O.23 Illinois State
O.30 SW Missouri State
N. 6 at Indiana State
N.20 Western Kentucky

SW MISSOURI STATE
SPRINGFIELD, MO
(5–6)

S. 4 at Tulsa
S.11 Texas Southern
S.18 Henderson State
S.25 Illinois State
O. 2 at Western Illinois
O.16 Northern Iowa
O.23 at SE Missouri
O.30 at Southern Illinois
N. 6 at Youngstown State
N.13 Tennessee-Martin
N.20 Indiana State

WESTERN ILLINOIS
MACOMB, IL
(11–3)

S. 2 at Northern Illinois
S.11 Mississippi Valley State
S.18 at Nicholls State
S.25 at Youngstown State
O. 2 SW Missouri State
O. 9 Elon College
O.16 Southern Illinois
O.23 at Indiana State
N. 6 at Illinois State
N.13 Northern Iowa
N.20 Drake

YOUNGSTOWN STATE
YOUNGSTOWN, OH
(6–5)

S. 2 Slippery Rock
S.11 at Western Michigan
S.18 Indiana (Pa)
S.25 Western Illinois
O. 2 at Indiana State
O. 9 at Southern Illinois
O.16 Cal Poly-SLO
O.23 at Northern Iowa
O.30 Illinois State
N. 6 SW Missouri State
N.13 at Villanova

IVY LEAGUE

BROWN
PROVIDENCE, RI
(7–3)

S.18 at Yale
S.25 Lafayette
O. 2 Cornell
O. 9 Princeton
O.16 Rhode Island
O.23 at Pennsylvania
O.30 at Fordham
N. 6 Harvard
N.13 at Dartmouth
N.20 Columbia

COLUMBIA
NEW YORK, NY
(4–6)

S.18 at Harvard
S.25 Towson
O. 2 at Lehigh
O. 9 Bucknell
O.16 Pennsylvania
O.23 Yale
O.30 at Princeton
N. 6 Dartmouth
N.13 at Cornell
N.20 at Brown

CORNELL
ITHACA, NY
(4–6)

S.18 at Princeton
S.25 Fordham
O. 2 at Brown
O. 9 Harvard
O.16 at Colgate
O.23 at Dartmouth
O.30 Wagner
N. 6 Yale
N.13 Columbia
N.20 at Pennsylvania

DARTMOUTH
HANOVER, NH
(2–8)

S.18 at Pennsylvania
S.25 Colgate
O. 2 at Lafayette
O. 9 Lehigh
O.16 at Yale
O.23 Cornell
O.30 at Harvard
N. 6 at Columbia
N.13 Brown
N.20 Princeton

HARVARD
CAMBRIDGE, MA
(4–6)

S.18 Columbia
S.25 at Holy Cross
O. 2 Colgate
O. 9 Cornell
O.16 at Fordham
O.23 Princeton
O.30 Dartmouth
N. 6 at Brown
N.13 Pennsylvania
N.20 at Yale

PENNSYLVANIA
PHILADELPHIA, PA
(8–2)

S.18 Dartmouth
S.25 Villanova
O. 2 Bucknell
O. 9 Fordham
O.16 at Columbia
O.23 Brown
O.30 at Yale
N. 6 Princeton
N.13 at Harvard
N.20 Cornell

PRINCETON
PRINCETON, NJ
(5–5)

S.18 Cornell
S.25 at Lehigh
O. 2 Fordham
O. 9 at Brown
O.16 Lafayette
O.23 at Harvard
O.30 Columbia
N. 6 at Pennsylvania
N.13 Yale
N.20 at Dartmouth

YALE
NEW HAVEN, CT
(6–4)

S.18 Brown
S.25 Valparaiso
O. 2 at UC-San Diego
O. 9 at Holy Cross
O.16 Dartmouth
O.23 at Columbia
O.30 Pennsylvania
N. 6 at Cornell
N.13 at Princeton
N.20 Harvard

METRO ATLANTIC

CANISIUS
BUFFALO, NY
(3–7)

S.11 at Rochester
S.18 at St. Peter's
S.25 Fairfield
O. 2 Marist
O. 9 at La Salle
O.16 at Alfred
O.23 at Siena
O.30 Iona
N. 6 at St. John's
N.13 Georgetown
N.20 at Duquesne

DUQUESNE
PITTSBURGH, PA
(8–3)

S.11 La Salle
S.18 at Fairfield
S.25 at Marist
O. 2 St. Peter's
O. 9 St. John's
O.16 at Bucknell
O.23 at Iona
O.30 Siena
N. 6 at Georgetown
N.13 at Lafayette
N.20 Canisius

FAIRFIELD
FAIRFIELD, CT
(9–2)

S.11 at Iona
S.18 Duquesne
S.25 at Canisius
O. 2 Central Conn State
O. 9 Siena
O.16 at Holy Cross
O.23 St. John's
O.30 at Georgetown
N. 6 Marist
N.13 La Salle
N.20 at St. Peter's

GEORGETOWN
WASHINGTON, DC
(9–2)

S.11 at Holy Cross
S.18 Siena
S.25 St. John's
O. 2 at Iona
O. 9 at Marist
O.16 Davidson
O.23 at St. Peter's
O.30 Fairfield
N. 6 Duquesne
N.13 at Canisius
N.20 La Salle

IONA
NEW ROCHELLE, NY
(4–6)

S.11 Fairfield
S.18 at La Salle
S.25 Sacred Heart
O. 2 Georgetown
O. 9 at St. Peter's
O.16 at Siena
O.23 Duquesne
O.30 at Canisius
N.13 Marist
N.19 at St. John's

LA SALLE
PHILADELPHIA, PA
(3–6)

S. 4 St. Francis (PA)
S.11 at Duquesne
S.18 Iona
O. 2 at Siena
O. 9 Canisius
O.16 at Marist
O.30 St. John's
N. 6 St. Peter's
N.13 at Fairfield
N.20 at Georgetown

MARIST
POUGHKEEPSIE, NY
(7–3)

S.11 St. Peter's
S.18 at St. John's
S.25 Duquesne
O. 2 at Canisius
O. 9 Georgetown
O.16 La Salle
O.23 Wagner
O.30 at Lafayette
N. 6 at Fairfield
N.13 at Iona
N.20 Siena

ST. JOHN'S
JAMAICA, NY
(6–5)

S.11 St. Francis (PA)
S.18 Marist
S.25 at Georgetown
O. 9 at Duquesne
O.16 St. Peter's
O.23 at Fairfield
O.30 at La Salle
N. 6 Canisius
N.13 at Siena
N.19 Iona
N.26 at Stony Brook

ST. PETER'S
JERSEY CITY, NJ
(0–10)

S.11 at Marist
S.18 Canisius
S.25 at Siena
O. 2 at Duquesne
O. 9 Iona
O.16 at St. John's
O.23 Georgetown
N. 6 at La Salle
N.13 at Sacred Heart
N.20 Fairfield

SIENA
LOUDONVILLE, NY
(4–6)

S.11 at Sacred Heart
S.18 at Georgetown
S.25 St. Peter's
O. 2 La Salle
O. 9 at Fairfield
O.16 Iona
O.23 Canisius
O.30 at Duquesne
N.13 St. John's
N.20 at Marist

MID-EASTERN

BETHUNE-COOKMAN
DAYTONA BEACH, FL
(8–2)

S. 4 Savannah State
S.11 Morgan State
S.18 Howard
S.25 Morris Brown
O. 2 at Delaware State
O. 9 Johnson C. Smith
O.16 South Carolina State
O.30 North Carolina A&T
N. 6 Hampton
N.13 at Norfolk State
N.20 Florida A&M

DELAWARE STATE
DOVER, DE
(0–11)

S. 4 at Hampton
S.11 Elon
S.18 Norfolk State
S.25 at Bucknell
O. 2 Bethune-Cookman
O.16 at Hofstra
O.23 Morgan State
O.30 at Florida A&M
N. 6 at North Carolina A&T
N.13 at South Carolina State
N.20 Howard

FLORIDA A&M
TALLAHASSEE, FL
(11–2)

S. 4 at Miami
S.11 Norfolk State
S.18 Tennessee State
S.25 at South Carolina State
O. 2 Morgan State
O. 9 at Howard
O.23 at Hampton
O.30 Delaware State
N. 6 Southern
N.13 at North Carolina A&T
N.20 Bethune-Cookman

HAMPTON
HAMPTON, VA
(9–3)

S. 4 Delaware State
S.11 at Howard
S.18 Arkansas-Pine Bluff@
S.25 Grambling#
O. 2 Southern&
O. 9 at North Carolina A&T
O.16 at Norfolk State
O.23 Florida A&M
O.30 South Carolina State
N. 6 at Bethune-Cookman
N.20 Morgan State
@St. Louis, MO
#East Rutherford, NJ
&Indianapolis, IN

HOWARD
WASHINGTON, DC
(7–4)

S. 4 at Jackson State
S.11 Hampton
S.18 at Bethune-Cookman
S.25 Texas Southern
O. 9 Florida A&M
O.16 Towson State
O.23 at North Carolina A&T
O.30 at Norfolk State
N. 6 South Carolina State
N.13 at Morgan State
N.20 at Delaware State

MORGAN STATE
BALTIMORE, MD.
(1–10)

S. 4 at Bucknell
S.11 at Bethune-Cookman
S.18 South Carolina State
S.25 at Rhode Island
O. 2 Florida A&M
O. 9 Towson State
O.16 North Carolina A&T
O.23 at Delaware State
N. 6 at Norfolk State
N.13 Howard
N.20 at Hampton

NORFOLK STATE
NORFOLK, VA
(2–9)

S. 4 Virginia State
S.11 at Florida A&M
S.18 at Delaware State
O. 2 North Carolina A&T
O. 9 at South Carolina State
O.16 Hampton
O.23 at Virginia Union
O.30 Howard
N. 6 Morgan State
N.13 Bethune-Cookman

NORTH CAROLINA A&T
GREENSBORO, NC
(8–3)

S. 4 North Carolina Central
S.11 at Winston-Salem State
S.25 Elon
O. 2 at Norfolk State
O. 9 Hampton
O.16 at Morgan State
O.23 Howard
O.30 at Bethune-Cookman
N. 6 Delaware State
N.13 Florida A&M
N.20 @South Carolina State
@Charlotte, NC

SOUTH CAROLINA ST.
ORANGEBURG, SC
(5–6)

S. 4 Charleston Southern
S.11 Furman
S.18 at Morgan State
S.25 Florida A&M
O. 2 The Citadel
O. 9 Norfolk State
O.16 at Bethune-Cookman
O.30 at Hampton
N. 6 at Howard
N.13 Delaware State
N.20 @North Carolina A&T
@Charlotte, NC

NORTHEAST

ALBANY
ALBANY, NY
(10–1)

S. 4 at Central Conn State
S.11 at Monmouth
S.18 Rowan
O. 2 Stony Brook
O. 9 at Wagner
O.15 at Mass-Lowell
O.23 at St. Francis (Pa.)
O.30 Robert Morris
N. 6 Sacred Heart

CENTRAL CONN. ST.
NEW BRITAIN, CT
(4–6)

S. 4 Albany
S.11 at Frostburg State
S.25 Robert Morris
O. 2 at Fairfield
O. 9 at St. Francis (Pa.)
O.16 at Wagner
O.23 Sacred Heart
O.30 at Stony Brook
N. 6 So. Conn State
N.13 Monmouth

MONMOUTH
W. LONG BRANCH, NJ
(5–5)

S. 4 at Towson
S.11 Albany
S.18 at Lehigh
S.25 at Stony Brook
O. 9 C.W. Post
O.16 at St. Francis (Pa.)
O.23 Robert Morris
O.30 at Sacred Heart
N. 6 Wagner
N.13 at Central Conn State

ROBERT MORRIS
CORAPOLIS, PA
(4–6)

S. 4 at Buffalo State
S.11 Dayton
S.18 at Valparaiso
S.25 at Central Conn State
O. 2 Wagner
O.16 Sacred Heart
O.23 at Monmouth
O.30 at Albany
N. 6 St. Francis (Pa.)
N.20 Stony Brook

SACRED HEART
FAIRFIELD, CT
(2–8)

S. 4 at Assumption
S.11 Siena
S.18 at Wagner
S.25 at Iona
O. 2 St. Francis (Pa.)
O. 9 Stony Brook
O.16 at Robert Morris
O.23 at Central Conn State
O.30 Monmouth
N. 6 at Albany
N.13 St. Peter's

ST. FRANCIS
LORETTO, PA
(0–10)

S. 4 at La Salle
S.11 at St. John's
S.18 Butler
S.25 at Wagner
O. 2 at Sacred Heart
O. 9 Central Conn State
O.16 Monmouth
O.23 Albany
N. 6 at Robert Morris
N.13 at Stony Brook

STONY BROOK
STONYBROOK, NY
(3–7)

S. 4 Wagner
S.25 Monmouth
O. 2 at Albany
O. 9 at Sacred Heart
O.23 C.W. Post
O.30 Central Conn State
N. 6 San Diego
N.13 St. Francis (Pa.)
N.20 at Robert Morris
N.26 St. John's

WAGNER
STATEN ISLAND, NY
(7–3)

S. 4 at Stony Brook
S.18 Sacred Heart
S.25 St. Francis (Pa.)
O. 2 at Robert Morris
O. 9 Albany
O.16 Central Conn State
O.23 at Marist
O.30 at Cornell
N. 6 at Monmouth
N.13 at San Diego

OHIO VALLEY

EASTERN ILLINOIS
CHARLESTON, IL
(6–5)

S. 2 at Central Michigan
S.11 at Hawaii
S.18 Southern Illinois
S.25 Tenn-Martin
O. 2 at Central Florida
O. 9 at Tennessee State
O.16 at Murray State
O.23 Tennessee Tech
O.30 Western Kentucky
N. 6 at SE Missouri
N.13 Illinois State
N.20 at Eastern Kentucky

EASTERN KENTUCKY
RICHMOND, KY
(6–5)

S. 2 Kentucky State
S.11 at Appalachian State
S.18 Indiana State
S.25 at Samford
O. 2 at SE Missouri
O. 9 Western Kentucky
O.23 Tennessee-Martin
O.30 at Tennessee State
N. 6 at Murray State
N.13 at Tennessee Tech
N.20 Eastern Illinois

MURRAY STATE
MURRAY, KY
(7–4)

S. 4 at Wisconsin
S.11 at Southern Illinois
S.18 SE Missouri
S.25 Albany State
O. 2 at Western Kentucky
O. 9 Tennessee-Martin
O.16 Eastern Illinois
O.23 Samford
O.30 at Tennessee Tech
N. 6 Eastern Kentucky
N.13 at Tennessee State

SE MISSOURI STATE
CAPE GIRARDEAU, MO
(3–8)

S. 2 Southern Illinois
S.11 at Illinois State
S.18 at Murray State
S.25 at Western Kentucky
O. 2 Eastern Kentucky
O. 9 Tennessee Tech
O.16 at Indiana State
O.23 SW Missouri State
O.30 at Tennessee-Martin
N. 6 Eastern Illinois
N.20 Tennessee State

TENNESSEE STATE
NASHVILLE, TN
(9–3)

S. 4 Alabama State
S.11 @Jackson State
S.18 &Florida A&M
O. 2 at Alabama A&M
O. 9 Eastern Illinois
O.16 at Tennessee-Martin
O.23 at Western Kentucky
O.30 Eastern Kentucky
N. 6 Tennessee Tech
N.13 Murray State
N.20 at SE Missouri
@Memphis, TN
&Atlanta, GA

TENNESSEE TECH
COOKEVILLE, TN
(4–7)

S.11 at Bowling Green
S.18 Liberty
O. 2 at Tennessee-Martin
O. 9 at SE Missouri
O.16 Western Kentucky
O.23 at Eastern Illinois
O.30 Murray State
N. 6 at Tennessee State
N.13 Eastern Kentucky
N.20 at Samford

TENNESSEE-MARTIN
MARTIN, TN
(0–11)

S. 2 Western Kentucky
S.11 Lambuth
S.18 Samford
S.25 at Eastern Illinois
O. 2 Tennessee Tech
O. 9 at Murray State
O.16 Tennessee State
O.23 at Eastern Kentucky
O.30 SE Missouri
N. 6 at Middle Tennessee
N.13 at SW Missouri State

WESTERN KENTUCKY
BOWLING GREEN, KY
(7–4)

S. 2 at tennessee-Martin
S.11 Cumberland
S.18 South Florida
S.25 SE Missouri
O. 2 Murray State
O. 9 at Eastern Kentucky
O.16 at Tennessee Tech
O.23 Tennessee State
O.30 at Eastern Illinois
N.13 at Indiana State
N.20 at Southern Illinois

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Doubles as seat

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GRIDIRON GRILL:		$ 89.99	$
STADIUM SEAT:		$ 26.99	$
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40 CAN COOLER:		$ 39.99	$
CAN JAM:		$ 28.99	$
SHIPPING & HANDLING (* SEE BELOW)			$
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NAME:_____ CITY:_____ STATE:_____

ADDRESS:_____ ZIP:_____ PHONE:_____

SIGNATURE:_____ GIFT FROM:_____

PATRIOT

BUCKNELL
LEWISBURG, PA
(6–5)

S. 4 Morgan State
S.11 at Colgate
S.18 Towson
S.25 Delaware State
O. 2 at Pennsylvania
O. 9 at Columbia
O.16 Duquesne
O.23 at Lafayette
N. 6 Holy Cross
N.13 Lehigh
N.20 at Fordham

COLGATE
HAMILTON, NY
(8–4)

S. 4 Maine
S.11 Bucknell
S.18 at Fordham
S.25 at Dartmouth
O. 2 at Harvard
O. 9 at Lafayette
O.16 Cornell
O.23 at St. Mary's
N. 6 Lehigh
N.13 Towson
N.20 at Holy Cross

FORDHAM
BRONX, NY
(4–7)

S.11 Lehigh
S.18 Colgate
S.25 at Cornell
O. 2 at Princeton
O. 9 at Pennsylvania
O.16 Harvard
O.23 at Towson
O.30 Brown
N. 6 at Lafayette
N.13 Holy Cross
N.20 Bucknell

HOLY CROSS
WORCHESTER, MA
(2–9)

S.11 Georgetown
S.18 Lafayette
S.25 Harvard
O. 2 at Towson
O. 9 Yale
O.16 Fairfield
O.23 at Lehigh
O.30 at St. Mary's-Calif.
N. 6 at Bucknell
N.13 at Fordham
N.20 Colgate

LAFAYETTE
EASTON, PA
(3–8)

S.11 at Towson
S.18 at Holy Cross
S.25 at Brown
O. 2 Dartmouth
O. 9 Colgate
O.16 at Princeton
O.23 Bucknell
O.30 Marist
N. 6 Fordham
N.13 Duquesne
N.20 at Lehigh

LEHIGH
BETHLEHEM, PA
(12–1)

S.11 at Fordham
S.18 Monmouth
S.25 Princeton
O. 2 Columbia
O. 9 at Dartmouth
O.16 at Delaware
O.23 Holy Cross
O.30 Towson
N. 6 at Colgate
N.13 at Bucknell
N.20 Lafayette

TOWSON
TOWSON, MD
(5–6)

S. 4 Monmouth
S.11 Lafayette
S.18 at Bucknell
S.25 at Columbia
O. 2 Holy Cross
O. 9 at Morgan State
O.16 at Howard
O.23 Fordham
O.30 at Lehigh
N. 6 Dayton
N.13 at Colgate

PIONEER

BUTLER
INDIANAPOLIS, IN
(4–6)

S. 4 at Albion
S.11 Morehead State
S.18 at St. Francis
S.25 Wesley
O. 2 at Dayton
O. 9 Valparaiso
O.16 at San Diego
O.23 Drake
N. 6 Quincy
N.13 at Lindenwood

DAYTON
DAYTON, OH
(6–4)

S. 4 McKendree College
S.11 at Robert Morris
S.18 Austin Peay
S.25 at Morehead State
O. 2 Butler
O. 9 San Diego
O.16 at Drake
O.23 St. Joseph
O.30 Valparaiso
N. 6 at Towson

DRAKE
DES MOINES, IA
(7–3)

S. 4 at Morningside
S.11 St. Ambrose
S.18 Wis.-Steven's Point
S.25 Quincy
O. 2 at Valparaiso
O. 9 St. Mary's
O.16 Dayton
O.23 at Butler
O.30 at San Diego
N. 6 at Jacksonville
N.20 at Western Illinois

SAN DIEGO
SAN DIEGO, CA
(2–8)

S. 4 at Azusa Pacific
S.11 Whittier
S.18 Cal-Lutheran
O. 2 Yale
O. 9 at Dayton
O.16 Butler
O.23 at Valparaiso
O.30 Drake
N. 6 at Stony Brook
N.13 Wagner

VALPARAISO
VALPARAISO, IN
(5–6)

S. 4 St. Francis
S.18 Robert Morris
S.25 at Yale
O. 2 Drake
O. 9 at Butler
O.16 at Morehead State
O.23 San Diego
O.30 at Dayton
N. 6 St. Joseph's
N.13 at Aurora
N.20 at Austin Peay

SOUTHERN

APPALACHIAN STATE
BOONE, NC
(10–3)

S. 4 at Auburn
S.11 Eastern Kentucky
S.25 at The Citadel
O. 2 East Tennessee State
O. 9 at Furman
O.16 Georgia Southern
O.23 at Wofford
O.30 Chattanooga
N. 6 at VMI
N.13 Western Carolina
N.20 at Liberty

CHATTANOOGA
CHATTANOOGA, TN
(5–6)

S. 2 at Samford
S.11 at Louisville
S.18 Savannah State
S.25 at Georgia Southern
O. 2 Wofford
O.16 at VMI
O.23 Western Carolina
O.30 at Appalachian State
N. 6 The Citadel
N.13 at East Tennessee State
N.20 Furman

THE CITADEL
CHARLESTON, SC
(5–6)

S. 2 at East Tennessee State
S.11 Delaware
S.18 at Western Carolina
S.25 Appalachian State
O. 2 South Carolina State
O.16 Furman
O.23 at Georgia Southern
O.30 Wofford
N. 6 at Chattanooga
N.13 VMI

EAST TENNESSEE ST.
JOHNSON CITY, TN
(4–7)

S. 2 The Citadel
S.11 West Virginia Tech
S.18 at VMI
S.25 Western Carolina
O. 2 at Appalachian State
O.16 Liberty
O.23 at Furman
O.30 Georgia Southern
N. 6 at Wofford
N.13 Chattanooga
N.20 at Middle Tennessee

FURMAN
GREENVILLE, SC
(5–6)

S. 4 Elon
S.18 at William & Mary
S.25 VMI
O. 2 at Western Carolina
O. 9 Appalachian State
O.16 at The Citadel
O.23 East Tennessee State
O.30 at North Carolina
N. 6 at Georgia Southern
N.13 Wofford
N.20 at Chattanooga

GEORGIA SOUTHERN
STATESBORO, GA
(14–1)

S. 4 Fayetteville State
S.11 at Wofford
S.18 at Oregon State
S.25 Chattanooga
O. 2 at VMI
O. 9 Western Carolina
O.16 at Appalachian State
O.23 The Citadel
O.30 at East Tennessee State
N. 6 Furman
N.13 at Jacksonville State

VMI
LEXINGTON, VA
(1–10)

S. 4 at Richmond
S.11 Concord
S.18 East Tennessee State
S.25 at Furman
O. 2 Georgia Southern
O. 9 at Wofford
O.16 Chattanooga
O.23 William & Mary
O.30 at Western Carolina
N. 6 Appalachian State
N.13 at The Citadel

WESTERN CAROLINA
CULLOWHEE, NC
(6–5)

S. 2 Mars Hill
S.11 at Maryland
S.18 The Citadel
S.25 at East Tennessee St.
O. 2 Furman
O. 9 at Georgia Southern
O.16 Wofford
O.23 at Chattanooga
O.30 VMI
N. 6 Samford
N.13 at Appalachian State

WOFFORD
SPARTANBURG, SC
(4–7)

S.11 Georgia Southern
S.18 at Middle Tennessee
S.25 Charleston Southern
O. 2 at Chattanooga
O. 9 VMI
O.16 at Western Carolina
O.23 Appalachian State
O.30 at The Citadel
N. 6 East Tennessee State
N.13 at Furman
N.20 at USL

SOUTHLAND

JACKSONVILLE STATE
JACKSONVILLE, AL
(7–4)

S. 4 Alabama A&M
S.25 Nicholls State
O. 2 at Samford
O. 9 at Sam Houston
O.16 McNeese State
O.23 Southwest Texas
O.30 at Stephen F. Austin
N. 6 at Northwestern State
N.13 Georgia Southern
N.20 at Troy State

McNEESE STATE
LAKE CHARLES, LA
(8–4)

S.11 Northern Iowa
S.18 Southern Utah
S.25 at James Madison
O. 2 at Maine
O. 9 at Stephen F. Austin
O.16 at Jacksonville State
O.23 Northwestern State
O.30 Sam Houston
N. 6 at Southwest Texas
N.13 Troy State
N.20 at Nicholls State

NICHOLLS STATE
THIBODAUX, LA
(4–7)

S. 4 at NE Louisiana
S.18 Western Illinois
S.25 at Jacksonville State
O. 2 at Northwestern State
O. 9 Southwest Texas
O.16 at Central Florida
O.23 at Stephen F. Austin
O.30 Troy State
N. 6 at Sam Houston
N.13 Samford
N.20 McNeese State

NORTHWESTERN ST.
NATCHITOCHES, LA
(11–3)

S. 4 at Southern
S.11 at Southern Miss
S.18 Tarleton State
S.25 at NE Louisiana
O. 2 Nicholls State
O. 9 at Troy State
O.23 at McNeese State
O.30 Southwest Texas
N. 6 Jacksonville State
N.13 at Sam Houston
N.20 Stephen F. Austin

SAM HOUSTON
HUNTSVILLE, TX
(3–8)

S. 2 at Delta State
S.11 at Louisiana Tech
S.25 at Texas A&M-Kingsville
O. 2 at Arkansas State
O. 9 Jacksonville State
O.16 Stephen F. Austin
O.23 at Troy State
O.30 at McNeese State
N. 6 Nicholls State
N.13 Northwestern State
N.20 at Southwest Texas

SOUTHWEST TEXAS
SAN MARCOS, TX
(4–7)

S. 2 Midwestern State
S.11 at South Florida
S.25 Northern Arizona
O. 9 at Nicholls State
O.16 Troy State
O.23 at Jacksonville State
O.30 at Northwestern State
N. 6 McNeese State
N.13 at Stephen F. Austin
N.20 Sam Houston

STEPHEN F. AUSTIN
NACOGDOCHES, TX
(3–8)

S. 4 Abilene Christian
S.11 at Utah State
O. 2 at New Hampshire
O. 9 McNeese State
O.16 at Sam Houston
O.23 Nicholls State
O.30 Jacksonville State
N. 6 at Troy State
N.13 Southwest Texas
N.20 at Northwestern State

TROY STATE
TROY, AL
(8–4)

S.11 at Cincinnati
S.18 at Alabama State
S.25 South Florida
O. 2 Middle Tennessee
O. 9 Northwestern State
O.16 at Southwest Texas
O.23 Sam Houston
O.30 at Nicholls State
N. 6 Stephen F. Austin
N.13 at McNeese State
N.20 Jacksonville State

SWAC

ALABAMA A&M
HUNTSVILLE, AL
(5–6)

S. 4 at Jacksonville State
S.11 at Grambling
S.18 at Miss Valley State
S.25 Tennessee State
O. 9 at Southern
O.16 Tuskegee
O.23 Jackson State
O.30 Alabama State@
N.13 at Alcorn State
N.20 Prairie View A&M
@Birmingham, Ala.

ALABAMA STATE
MONTGOMERY, AL
(5–6)

S. 4 at Tennessee State
S.11 Alcorn State
S.18 Troy State
S.25 Southern@
O. 2 at Miss Valley State
O. 9 at Jackson State
O.16 at Arkansas-Pine Bluff
O.30 Alabama A&M#
N. 6 Grambling
N.13 Prairie View A&M
N.25 Tuskegee
@Mobile, Ala.
#Birmingham, Ala.

ALCORN STATE
LORMAN, MS
(5–6)

S. 4 Grambling
S.11 Alabama State@
S.25 at Arkansas-Pine Bluff
O. 2 Morehouse
O. 9 Prairie View A&M
O.16 at Texas Southern
O.23 at Southern
N. 6 Miss Valley State
N.13 Alabama A&M
N.20 at Jackson State
@Chicago, Ill.

ARKANSAS-PINE BLUFF
PINE BLUFF, AR
(8–3)

S. 4 Miss Valley State
S.11 at Southern
S.18 Hampton@
S.25 Alcorn State
O. 9 Texas Southern
O.16 Alabama State
O.23 at Grambling
O.30 at Jackson State
N. 6 at Prairie View A&M
N.13 Lane
N.20 at Alabama A&M
@St. Louis, MO.

GRAMBLING
GRAMBLING, LA
(5–6)

S. 4 at Alcorn State
S.11 Alabama A&M
S.18 at Jackson State
S.25 Hampton@
O. 2 Prairie View A&M$
O. 9 Miss Valley State
O.23 Arkansas-Pine Bluff
O.30 Texas Southern
N. 6 at Alabama State
N.13 at Winston-Salem
N.27 Southern&
@East Rutherford, N.J.
$Dallas, Texas
&New Orleans, La.

JACKSON STATE
JACKSON, MS
(7–4)

S. 4 Howard
S.11 Tennessee State@
S.18 Grambling
S.25 Miss Valley State
O. 9 Alabama State
O.16 Southern
O.23 at Alabama A&M
O.30 Arkansas-Pine Bluff
N. 6 at Texas Southern
N.20 Alcorn State
@Memphis, TN.

MISS VALLEY STATE
ITTA BENA, MS
(1–10)

S. 4 at Arkansas-Pine Bluff
S.11 Western Illinois
S.18 Alabama A&M
S.25 at Jackson State
O. 2 Alabama State
O. 9 at Grambling
O.16 at Albany State
O.23 Texas Southern
O.30 at Prairie View A&M
N. 6 at Alcorn State

PRAIRIE VIEW A&M
PRAIRIE VIEW, TX
(1–10)

S. 4 at Texas Southern
S.11 Howard Payne
S.18 at Southern
S.25 at Alabama A&M
O. 2 Grambling@
O. 9 at Alcorn State
O.23 Panhandle State
O.30 Miss Valley State
N. 6 Arkansas-Pine Bluff
N.13 at Alabama State
@Dallas, Texas

SOUTHERN
BATON ROUGE, LA
(8–4)

S. 4 Northwestern State
S.11 Arkansas-Pine Bluff
S.18 Prairie View A&M
S.25 Alabama State@
O. 2 Hampton&
O. 9 Alabama A&M
O.16 Jackson State
O.23 Alcorn State
N. 6 at Florida A&M
N.13 at Texas Southern
N.27 Grambling$
@Mobile, AL.
& Indianapolis, IN
$New Orleans, LA

TEXAS SOUTHERN
HOUSTON, TX
(6–5)

S. 4 Prairie View A&M
S.18 Langston
S.25 at Howard
O. 9 at Arkansas-Pine Bluff
O.16 Alcorn State
O.23 at Miss Valley State
O.30 at Grambling
N. 6 Jackson State
N.13 Southern

I-AA INDEPENDENTS

AUSTIN PEAY
CLARKSVILLE, TN
(4–7)

S. 2 Cumberland
S.11 Samford
S.18 at Dayton
S.25 at Campbellsville
O. 2 Jacksonville
O.16 at Charleston Southern
O.23 Kentucky Wesleyan
O.30 at Morehead State
N. 6 at Clinch Valley
N.13 at Davidson
N.20 Valparaiso

CAL-POLY SLO
SAN LUIS OBISPO, CA
(3–8)

S. 4 at Northern Arizona
S.18 Montana State
S.25 at Hofstra
O. 2 Southern Utah
O. 9 at Northern Iowa
O.16 at Youngstown State
O.23 at UC Davis
O.30 Portland State
N. 6 Montana
N.13 at Saint Mary's (CA)
N.20 Cal St.-Sacramento

CHARLESTON SOUTHERN
CHARLESTON, SC
(3–8)

S. 4 at South Carolina State
S.11 Presbyterian
S.18 West Virginia State
S.25 at Wofford
O. 2 Lenoir Rhyne
O. 9 at Newberry
O.16 Austin Peay
O.23 Liberty
O.30 at Elon
N. 6 Tusculum
N.20 at Jacksonville

HOFSTRA
HEMPSTEAD, NY
(8–3)

S. 4 Connecticut
S.11 at Maine
S.18 at Rhode Island
S.25 Cal Poly-SLO
O. 2 at Massachusetts
O.16 Delaware State
O.23 at Elon
N. 6 at Buffalo
N.13 at South Florida
N.20 James Madison

LIBERTY
LYNCHBURG, VA
(5–6)

S. 4 Virginia Union
S.11 at Marshall
S.18 at Tennessee Tech
S.25 Fayetteville State
O. 2 Johnson C. Smith
O. 9 at South Florida
O.16 at East Tennessee State
O.23 at Charleston Southern
O.30 at Samford
N. 6 Elon
N.20 Appalachian State

MOREHEAD STATE
MOREHEAD, KY
(9–2)

S. 2 Davidson
S.11 at Butler
S.25 Dayton
O.16 Valparaiso
O.30 Austin Peay
N. 6 at Kentucky Wesleyan
N.13 at Elon

SAMFORD
BIRMINGHAM, AL
(6–5)

S. 2 Chattanooga
S.11 at Austin Peay
S.18 at Tennessee-Martin
S.25 Eastern Kentucky
O. 2 Jacksonville State
O.16 Elon
O.23 at Murray State
O.30 Liberty
N. 6 at Western Carolina
N.13 at Nicholls State
N.20 Tennessee Tech

SOUTH FLORIDA
TAMPA, FL
(8–3)

S. 4 at San Diego State
S.11 Southwest Texas
S.18 at Western Kentucky
S.25 at Troy State
O. 2 Southern Illinois
O. 9 Liberty
O.16 Illinois State
O.23 New Hampshire
O.30 at James Madison
N. 6 New Haven
N.13 Hofstra

SOUTHERN UTAH
CEDAR CITY, UT
(5–6)

A.28 Western Montana
S. 4 Fort Lewis
S.11 at Boise State
S.18 at McNeese State
S.25 Montana Tech
O. 2 at Cal-Poly SLO
O. 9 UC Davis
O.16 at Weber State
O.23 Idaho State
N. 6 at St. Mary's
N.20 at Eastern Washington

ST. MARY'S
MORAGA, CA
(2–8)

S. 4 at Cal St.-Sacramento
S.11 Humboldt State
S.18 at San Jose State
S.25 at Western Washington
O. 2 at Central Washington
O. 9 at Drake
O.16 UC Davis
O.23 Colgate
O.30 Holy Cross
N. 6 Southern Utah
N.13 Cal-Poly SLO

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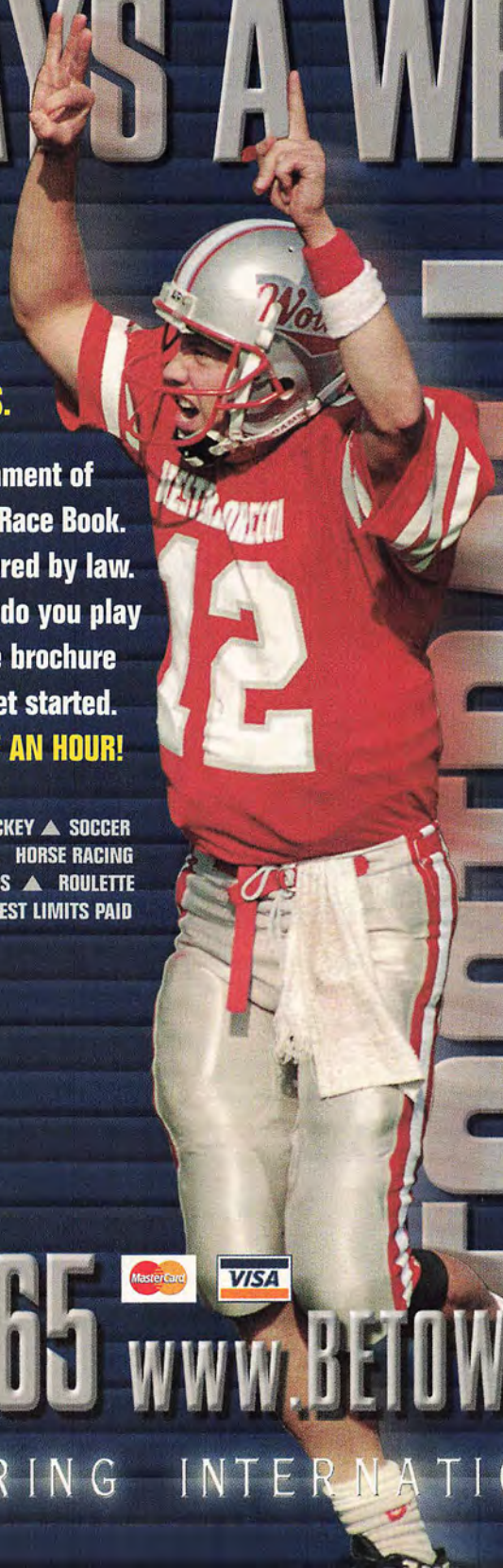

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OFFSHORE WAGERING INTERNATIONAL

Minutemen, Eagles Aim For I-AA Title Game Rematch

By Rick Bailey

Marcel Shipp
UMass Tailback

UMass Media Relations

Mark Whipple didn't set a timetable for winning the NCAA Division I-AA national championship when he prepared his first Massachusetts team for the 1998 season.

This was a good thing because the Minutemen lived up to their nickname.

They won the national title then and there, defeating Georgia Southern 55–43 in the championship game, completing a remarkable transition from 2–9 to 8–3, then adding four victories in the I-AA playoffs.

"First, we wanted a winning season," says Whipple, who came to UMass from Brown. "Then, we wanted to win the Atlantic 10 and get a home playoff game."

The Minutemen didn't win the league, but they won a lot more, defeating McNeese State, Lehigh and Northwestern State before upending undefeated Georgia Southern for the old Yankee Conference/now A-10's first national title.

So what about an encore?

"We have some things to motivate us," Whipple says. "We'll try not to lose three games. A major goal is to win our conference, and we lost to our rival (Connecticut) twice. That left a bitter taste."

Atlantic 10

UMass will have a good starting point to repeat with senior quarterback Todd Bankhead and junior tailback Marcel Shipp returning. Shipp, second in I-AA rushing at 177 yards a game, isn't a blazer, Whipple says, "but he's maybe the hardest worker in the program. He has the ability to make people miss."

Bankhead threw for 3,006 yards and 28 touchdowns, and Whipple says, "We want him to improve his decision making. We'd like more touchdowns and less interceptions."

Junior linebacker Kole Ayi (6'0", 217) was Defensive Player of the Game against Georgia Southern and has All-America potential, according to Whipple.

Atlantic 10 challengers figure to be Delaware, Connecticut, William & Mary and Villanova.

Delaware returns junior quarterback Matt Nagy, who was second in I-AA passing efficiency and is among 23 Fightin' Blue Hens who started one or more games. Junior halfbacks Craig Cummings and Derrick Downs return, and sophomore Butter Pressey will seek playing time. Senior tackle James Stull (6'3", 295) and junior center Jeff Fiss (6'2", 285) anchor the offensive line.

"I'll be disappointed if we're not a decent team," coach Tubby Raymond says. "The Atlantic 10 is very competitive."

Connecticut (10–3) has a new coach, Randy Edsall, and is on its way to 1-A. Villanova (6–5) returns junior Brian Westbrook, who was the first I-AA player ever to exceed 1,000 yards receiving and rushing in a season. He had 1,144 receiving yards, 1,046 rushing yards and 25 touchdowns. William & Mary (7–4) must replace quarterback Mike Cook.

Big Sky

Until last season, the Big Sky had at least one team reach the I-AA playoff semifinals or beyond for five straight years. The league hopes to recover from Montana's "one and done" postseason in '98 with another race as wide open as its well-documented and well-deserved offensive reputation.

Montana (8–4) will seek its third title in the last four years without quarterback Brian Ah Yat, who has graduated. Eastern Washington (5–6) has reloaded and signed Fred Salanoa, one of the top junior college quarterbacks in the nation. Tailback Ronney Jenkins, a transfer from Brigham Young, will fire up Northern Arizona's (6–5) running game. Cal State Northridge (7–4), co-runner-up last fall, continues to tap into the California junior college system for top prospects.

And Montana State, the other runner-up, might be in position to claim its first Big Sky title since 1984, when the Fighting Bobcats (7–4) also won the I-AA title. Senior Kasey Harte and sophomore Dusty Broderick are seeking the quarterback vacancy created by the

departure of 3½-year starter Rob Compson. Coach Cliff Hysell plans to alternate the pair for the first three games, then choose a starter.

Senior center Brent Ludwig (6'5", 295) anchors the offensive line, and senior all-conference wide receiver Chip Hobbs also returns. Senior safety Shon Flores leads seven returning starters on defense.

Montana State, which has put together three consecutive winning seasons for the first time in two decades, missed the Big Sky title with a 28–21 loss to Montana in the regular-season finale.

Gateway

Until last year, Illinois State (8–4) had only one winning record in the Gateway Conference (in '89), only two overall winning seasons ('85 and '93) and no I-AA playoff trips. But the Redbirds were second in the league (matching their highest finish) and reached the postseason.

Coach Todd Berry is hoping for more this fall with 19 starters returning, including junior quarterback Kevin Glenn, who already has broken several school records. Runner-up for Gateway offensive player honors, Glenn passed for 2,818 yards and 25 touchdowns and was ninth in I-AA total offense.

"He's a Charlie Ward-type quarterback with a quick release, strong and accurate arm and explosive style," Berry says of Glenn, the prep Player of the Year in Michigan who was recruited by most schools as a defensive back.

Glenn will be throwing to senior receiver Rickey Garrett, an AP third-team All-American who averaged 105 receiving yards a game.

Junior guard Mike Rodbro (6'4", 297) didn't allow a sack last year and has All-America potential, according to Berry. Junior runner Aveion Cason "has a motor," Berry says. Cason averaged 5.4 yards a carry and is an excellent receiver.

All-Gateway junior linebacker Galen Scott (5'9", 215) led the Redbirds with 175 tackles. Senior end Devon Finn (6'7", 285) "has all the tools," his coach says.

Northern Iowa (7–4) has been missing from the playoffs the last two years, but coach Mike Dunbar expects the Panthers to be competitive. A strong nucleus returns on defense led by senior end Jack Mitchell (6'3", 260) and junior tackle Tim O'Neill (6'0", 280). Junior quarterback Ryan Helming started the last nine games and "makes things happen," Dunbar says. AP third-team All-America center Brad Meester (6'3", 290, senior) also returns.

Youngstown State (6–5) was young and rebuilding after its 1997 national title and figures to challenge again. Senior tailback Adrian Brown returns.

Mid-Eastern

A year ago, Florida A&M (11–2) had to replace Oteman Sampson, its first-team AP All-America quarterback. So who comes along but Patrick Bonner, who passes for 3,473 yards and 37 touchdowns, leads I-AA in total offense (324 yards) and makes first-team AP All-America.

So who will the Rattlers get to replace Bonner, who was a senior? Sophomore Quinn Gray took some snaps last season and has gained the confidence of his receivers. Several other candidates also have applied for the position.

Hampton (9–3) also was a playoff participant and was declared the MEAC champion because of its opening-week win over Florida A&M. The Pirates return 15 starters for coach Joe Taylor.

Senior quarterback Roy Johnson will provide leadership in a backfield that returns all its starters, including junior Montrell Coley, who gained 1,032 yards and scored 12 touchdowns. Senior tackle Mitchell Foreman (6'4", 300) protects Johnson.

Senior linebacker Deon Hunt (6'2", 235) has led the MEAC in tackles the last two years. "He has great anticipation reading offensive sets," Taylor says. "He has good movement to the football from sideline to sideline."

Junior tackle Michael Bland (6'5", 305) anchors the line, and a young Hampton secondary has gained experience.

Bethune-Cookman (8–3) had its best record ever and went to the Heritage Bowl. That helped Alvin Wyatt Sr. win MEAC Coach of the Year honors.

MEAC Defensive Player of the Year Jermaine Derricott, a senior deep back, returns to South Carolina State.

Division I-AA Top 20

1. Massachusetts
2. Georgia Southern
3. Illinois State
4. Delaware
5. Hampton
6. Montana State
7. Southern
8. Northwestern (La.) State
9. Murray State
10. Northern Iowa
11. Tennessee State
12. Florida A&M
13. Montana
14. Jackson State
15. Appalachian State
16. Troy State
17. Villanova
18. Colgate
19. Youngstown State
20. Hofstra

Division I-AA Preview

Ohio Valley

Tennessee State (9–3) and Murray State (7–4) went down to the final seconds of their last league game before TSU won 46–44 for its first OVC championship. And with both quarterbacks returning, the teams could fight to the finish again.

Tennessee State will be led by senior Leon Murray, who passed for an OVC-record 3,002 yards and 22 touchdowns and was eighth in I-A total offense (277.8 yards). He set a league record with 491 air yards against the Racers.

Murray will be led by senior Justin Fuente, the transfer from Oklahoma who passed for 2,896 yards and 23 touchdowns.

TSU returns All-OVC offensive tackle Bennie Anderson (6'5", 305, senior) and linebacker Lamar Carter (6'3", 215, senior). Murray returns second-team all-conference running back Justin Bivins, a senior, and senior center Jason Williams (6'3", 285).

Replacing quarterbacks will be the primary chore for perennial playoff participant Eastern Kentucky (6–5) and Western Kentucky (7–4), which is returning to the OVC in football only for the first time since 1981.

Juniors Waylon Chapman and Chad Collins will vie for the job at Eastern. Sophomore quarterback Donte Pimpleton appears to be Willie Taggart's heir apparent at Western.

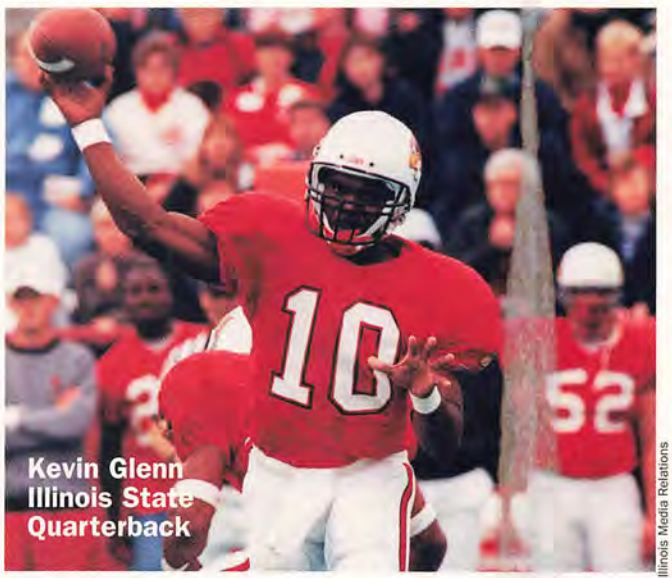
Patriot

The most recent Players of the Year in the Patriot League will be waging a final battle for the honor during their senior campaigns, just as their teams try to return to the playoffs.

Lehigh (12–1), which upset Richmond in reaching the second round, will be led by last year's honoree Phil Stambaugh, who passed for 3,121 yards and 22 touchdowns, and finished 10th in total offense and 11th in passing efficiency.

Colgate (8–4), which made its second straight playoff appearance, is led by Ryan Vena, who threw for 2,298 yards and 16 touchdowns, and was third in total offense and fifth in passing efficiency. He was Player of the Year as a freshman and sophomore.

Getting two teams in the playoffs validates the Patriot's solid brand of football from top to bottom, according to Colgate coach Dick Biddle.



Kevin Glenn
Illinois State
Quarterback

Illinois Media Relations

In Vena, the Red Raiders have "as good a quarterback as there is in I-AA football," Biddle says. Vena will call signals behind an experienced line anchored by four-year starters Paul Clasby (6'2", 266) and Kevin Bolis (6'2", 240). The running backs return as does junior Ed Weiss, the Patriot's Rookie of the Year in 1997 who had academic difficulties last season.

Nine defensive starters return including senior tackle Neil Gomez (6'1", 245) and the entire secondary.

Southern

Georgia Southern (14–1) will try to make it back to the I-AA title game with senior Greg Hill at quarterback and sophomore fullback Adrian Peterson, who gained 1,932 yards, scored 26 touchdowns and was an AP first-team All-American.

"Adrian has great balance and breaks a lot of tackles," coach Paul Johnson says. "Greg (19–2 as an Eagles, starter) has great speed and quickness, and he's a good passer." Hill ran for 1,061 yards and passed for 1,193 yards.

The Eagles lost three starters on the offensive line, but AP first-team All-American Mark Williams (6'1", 312, senior) returns at guard.

Two AP All-America first-teamers are back on defense. Voncellies Allen (6'0", 286, senior) anchors the line at tackle, and sophomore Arkee Thompson is the free safety.

"We've got to replace some offensive linemen and regroup on defense," Johnson says. "Our linebacking corps was depleted, and we'll be young on defense."

Appalachian State (10–3) will try to oust Georgia Southern from the top spot behind the throwing of returning junior quarterback David Reaves and junior QB Daniel Jeremiah's running. Junior tailback Terrence McCall also returns. He gained 1,242 ground yards. Daryl Skinner and Joey Gibson are the leading receivers.

Four standouts return on defense for coach Jerry Moore, including junior safety Corey Hall, sophomore linebacker Remi Awolowo, junior tackle Jamie Lovern (6'4", 270) and senior end Rocky Hunt (6'0", 261).

Most of the rest of the league could challenge the two front-runners. Senior free safety Eric Johnson returns to Western Carolina (6–5) as an AP first-team All-American.

Southland

Northwestern State (11–3) became the first repeat champion in more than a decade, and the Demons will contend for another title.

A walk-on quarterback that coach Sam Goodwin thought would never play led Northwestern to the I-AA semifinals. Brad Spangler so impressed his teammates when he took over for an injured Warren Patterson that they voted him Offensive MVP even though he started fewer than half the games.

Now a fifth-year senior, Spangler impressed Goodwin with his accuracy and poise. "He throws a very catchable ball, and he can throw long," Goodwin says. "He's calm, cool and accurate."

Tony Taylor made the All-Southland first-team as a freshman running back, averaging 6.3 yards a carry in limited action. "He has great cutting ability and balance," Goodwin says, citing a play in which Taylor broke six tackles and turned a big loss into a big gain.

The Demons' leading tacklers return — senior linebacker Jake Michel (6'1", 238) and senior free safety Mike Green.

Troy State (8–4) is working its way toward Division I-A in 2002

and returns some top players, including three seniors who were All-Southland first-team defense last year — lineman Al Lucas (6'3", 280), linebacker Anthony Rabb (5'11", 235) and cornerback Eric Sloan.

McNeese State (9–3) has a new coach, former defensive coordinator Kirby Bruchhaus, and Freshman of the Year, Jessie Burton, who led the league with 1,037 yards and a 115.2-yard average in nine games. Newcomer of the Year Spergon Wynn will be the senior quarterback at Southwest Texas.

Southwestern Athletic

While Southern (9–3) was beating Grambling in the traditional Bayou Classic on the first Saturday of the playoffs, then winning the Heritage Bowl later, the SWAC had no representative in the I-AA playoffs.

The SWAC won't have a team this fall either. The league has been divided into divisions, and a championship game will be played after the regular season, the winner going to the Heritage Bowl.

Jackson State (7–4) will try to advance as far as possible behind three record-setting players. Senior wide receiver Sylvester Morris, the league's Offensive Player of the Year, had 62 receptions for a school-record 1,258 yards and a record 17 touchdowns. Senior teammate Mark Washington was named first team All-SWAC after leading the league in passing efficiency and throwing for 2,232 yards and a team-record 26 touchdowns. Senior Destry Wright led the SWAC in rushing with 1,528 yards, another Jackson State record. Senior Harold Wooten provides leadership as a first-team all-league defensive back.

Southern will be after a SWAC three-peat, but the loss of 23 seniors has coach Pete Richardson facing "a big challenge for us to regroup."

Sophomore Troy Williams is expected to be the quarterback with juniors Ryan Lewis and Dane Lewis at tailback. Stalwarts on defense include end Nate Bell (6'6", 280), linebacker Channing Warner (6'1", 232) and back Bradley Pittman. All are seniors.

Ivy

Brown (7–3) returns All-Ivy quarterback James Perry, a senior. He threw for 3,165 yards and 23 touchdowns and was second in the league in passing efficiency. Junior Stephen Campbell heads the returning receivers. Senior guards Jason Wargin (6'2", 265) and Peter Calabrese (6'0", 265) anchor the line. Senior linebacker Louis Ames (6'2", 215) leads a defense which struggled last year.

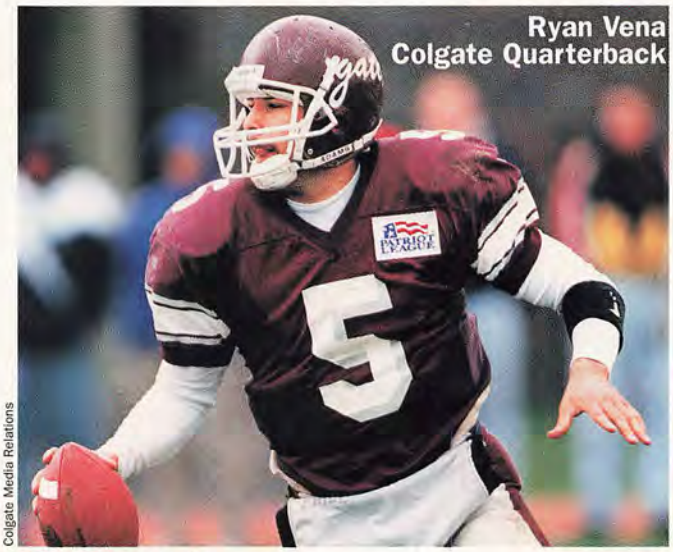
Defending champion Penn (8–2) must replace quarterback Matt Rader. A strong defense carried the Quakers, and nose guard Adrian Puzio (5'11", 255, senior) and linebacker Jim Hisgen (6'2", 230, senior) return.

Senior Joe Walland, the top running quarterback in the league, is back at Yale. All-Ivy first-teamer Rashad Bartholomew returns at running back.

Metro Atlantic

Fairfield (9–2) returns MAAC Player of the Year Jim Lopusznick, a senior, at quarterback, but the Stags are ineligible for the league title because of financial aid policy violations.

Georgetown (9–2) has senior quarterback J.J. Mont throwing to junior Gharun Hester, but the Hoyas lose two all-conference defenders. Junior Tony Zimmerman of Duquesne (8–3) will throw to Gerald Foster and Reggie Harris. Donte Small is available to run the ball.



Colgate Media Relations

Northeast

Co-champion Robert Morris (4–6) returns Newcomer of the Year Tim Levcik, a sophomore quarterback. He passed for 1,726 yards and 19 touchdowns.

Co-champ Monmouth (5–5) returns its quarterback, senior John DiPasquale, who threw for 2,299 yards and 15 TDs. Senior running back Rick Sarille was hurt last year at Wagner (7–3), so John Campbell ran for 985 yards as a freshman.

Pioneer

Drake (7–3) won its head-to-head battle with Dayton (6–4) to claim its second title in four years. The Bulldogs return senior quarterback Solon Bell, who passed for 1,790 yards and nine touchdowns. Senior running back Peter Sylvester and junior receiver Rob McFadden also return.

Dayton (6–4) will have a new quarterback, but All-Pioneer first-teamer Jimmy Lee returns to the Flyers' backfield. Senior linebacker Chuck Kohstall (6'3", 233) also returns.

San Diego (2–8) will be led by senior quarterback Mike Stadler, who passed for league highs of 2,031 yards and 17 touchdowns. Senior Dylan Ching was his top receiver with 63 catches for 915 yards.

Independents

Hofstra (8–3) returns a bunch of skill position players including senior quarterback Giovanni Carmazzi, who ran for 11 touchdowns, passed for 2,751 yards and 18 more scores, and was sixth in I-AA total offense. Senior running back Vaughn Sanders became the fourth 1,000-yard rusher (1,094) in school history and averaged 7.7 yards a carry.

Junior Steve Jackson had 55 receptions. Junior Chad Johnson shared the division lead with 1.45 field goals a game. Senior linebacker Jimmy Emanuel (6'1", 230) led the Flying Dutchmen with 94 tackles, and senior safety Amad Anderson had 80 stops.

South Florida (8–3) will have a new quarterback with junior Glen Gauntt, sophomore Marquel Blackwell and Georgia transfer Mike Usry, a junior, seeking the job. Junior linebacker Jason Butler (6'1", 245) and senior safety Anthony Henry head a defense that returns all starters.

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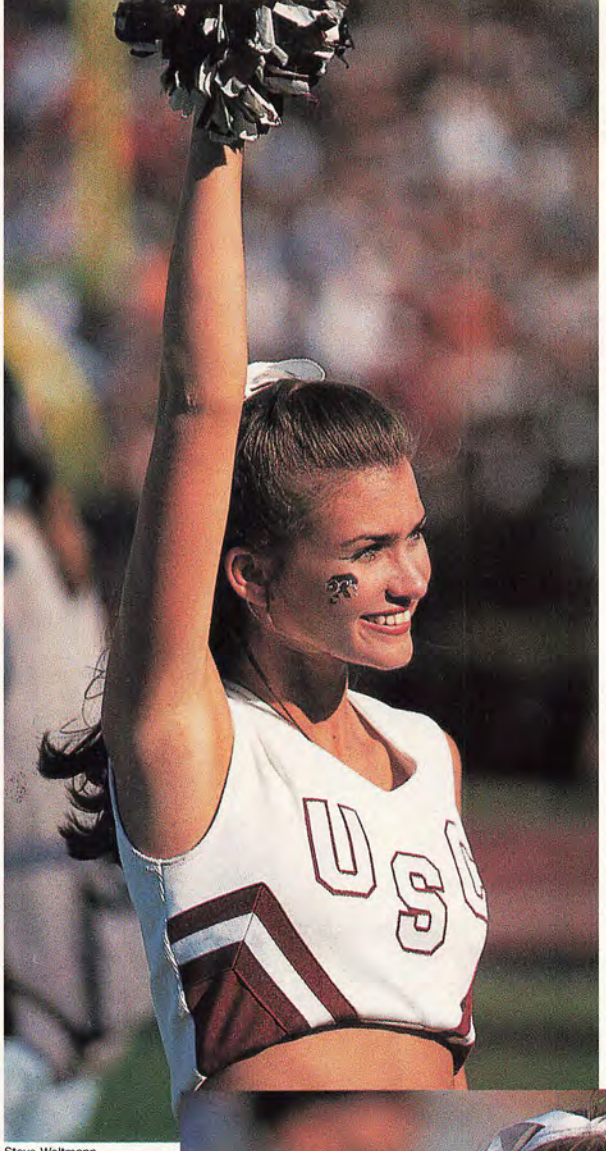
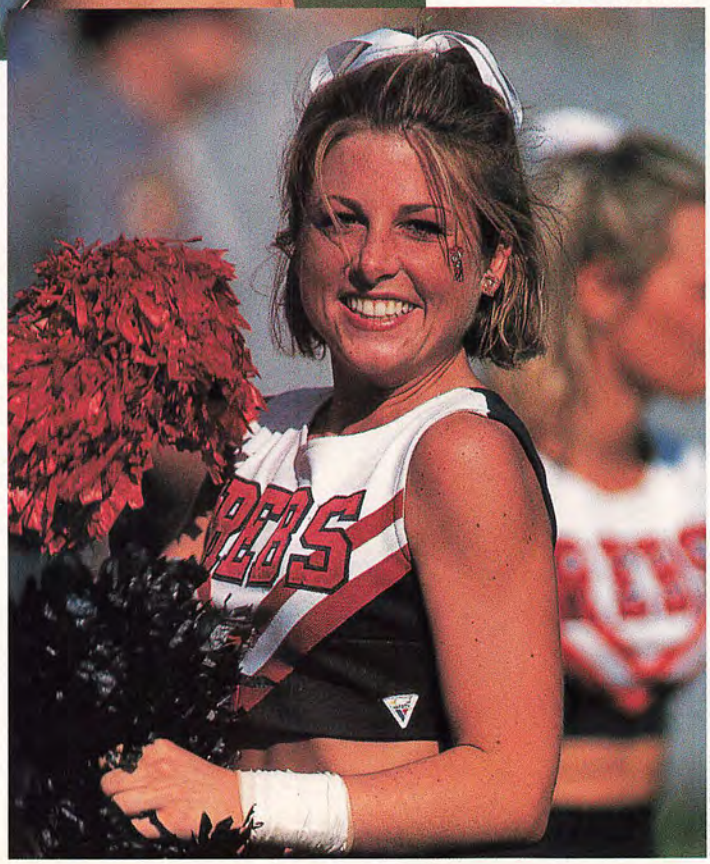


Steve Woltmann

South Carolina

Ole Miss



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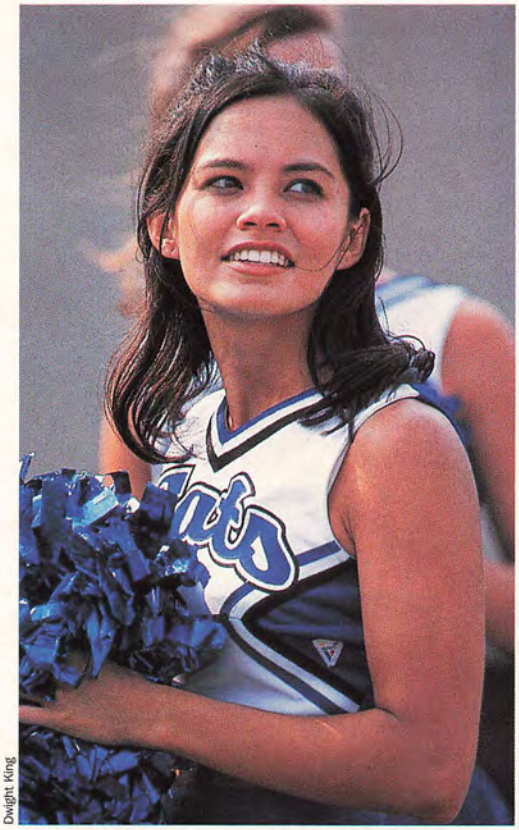

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Kentucky

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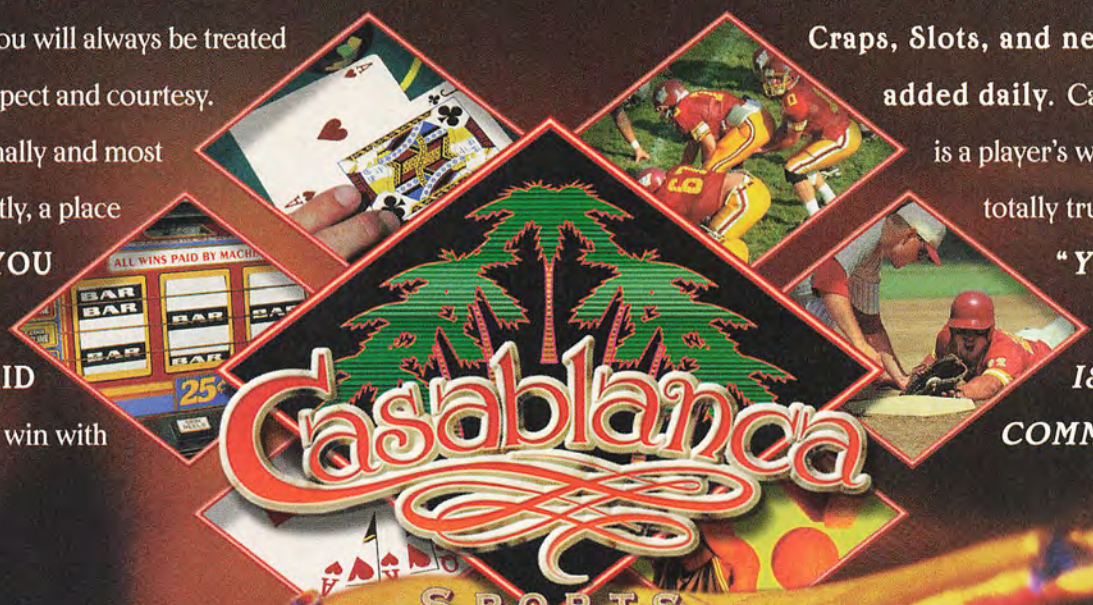

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Recruiting Report

Compiled by Bill King

Top 50 Classes of 1999

1. Texas
2. Alabama
3. Ohio State
4. UCLA
5. Texas A&M
6. Michigan
7. Georgia
8. Florida
9. Tennessee
10. Notre Dame
11. LSU
12. Florida State
13. Miami
14. USC
15. Boston College
16. Clemson
17. North Carolina
18. Oklahoma State
19. Georgia Tech
20. Virginia
21. Syracuse
22. Arizona
23. Michigan State
24. California
25. Arkansas
26. Nebraska
27. Arizona State
28. Mississippi State
29. Penn State
30. Auburn
31. Purdue
32. Washington
33. Kansas State
34. Washington State
35. Virginia Tech
36. Stanford
37. South Carolina
38. Missouri
39. Oklahoma
40. Kentucky
41. Stanford
42. Illinois
43. Oregon
44. Iowa State
45. Wisconsin
46. Indiana
47. Maryland
48. Southern Miss
49. Iowa
50. Pittsburgh

National Top 100 of 1999

	Player	POS	HT	WT	Hometown	Signed By
1.	Chris Simms	QB	6-5	210	Franklin Lakes, NJ	Texas
2.	T.J. Duckett	LB	6-2	255	Kalamazoo, MI	Michigan State
3.	Reggie Brown	WR	6-2	185	Carrollton, GA	Georgia
4.	Lito Sheppard	DB	5-11	195	Jacksonville, FL	Florida
5.	Kyle Boller	QB	6-3	195	Newhall, CA	California
6.	Dontae Walker	RB	5-10	200	Clinton, MS	Mississippi State
7.	Vernon Carey	OL	6-5	330	Miami, FL	Miami
8.	Michael Waddell	DB	5-11	170	Ellerbe, NC	North Carolina
9.	Gerome Sapp	DB	6-0	210	Houston, TX	Notre Dame
10.	Anquan Boldin	QB	6-2	205	Pahokee, FL	Florida State
11.	Bradie James	LB	6-3	205	West Monroe, LA	LSU
12.	Chris Massey	QB	6-0	185	Spiro, OK	Oklahoma State
13.	Constantin Ritzman	DL	6-4	245	Tallahassee, FL	Tennessee
14.	Nick Maddox	RB	6-0	190	Kannapolis, NC	Florida State
15.	Darrell Rideaux	DB	5-9	175	Long Beach, CA	USC
16.	David Paine	DL	6-7	260	Memphis, TN	Alabama
17.	Darnell Dockett	DL	6-4	260	Burtonsville, MD	Florida State
18.	Paul Arnold	RB	6-1	200	Seattle, WA	Washington
19.	Gary Brashears	QB	6-5	210	Clarksville, AR	Arkansas
20.	Cory Redding	LB	6-4	226	Houston, TX	Texas
21.	Albert Haynesworth	DL	6-6	300	Hartsville, SC	Tennessee
22.	Bernard Riley	DL	6-3	290	Los Alamitos, CA	USC
23.	Darin Naatjes	TE	6-6	230	Alvord, IA	Stanford
24.	Saleem Rasheed	LB	6-3	220	Birmingham, AL	Alabama
25.	Kelton Lindsay	RB	6-1	195	Lebanon, OH	Ohio State
26.	Cedric Cobbs	RB	6-0	217	Little Rock, AR	Arkansas
27.	Chris Lewis	QB	6-3	205	Long Beach, CA	Stanford
28.	Mike Seidman	TE	6-5	246	Westlake, CA	UCLA
29.	Latrez Harrison	QB	6-3	214	Atlanta, GA	Maryland
30.	Kevin Breedlove	OL	6-5	295	Clemson, SC	Georgia
31.	Alfio Randall	OL	6-4	265	Houston, TX	Texas
32.	Kareem Kelly	WR	6-1	185	Long Beach, CA	USC
33.	Marcus Reese	LB	6-2	216	San Jose, CA	UCLA
34.	Demetrius Solomon	OL	6-7	280	Flint, MI	Michigan
35.	Eric Edwards	TE	6-5	250	Monroe, LA	LSU
36.	C.J. Leak	QB	6-4	220	Charlotte, NC	Wake Forest
37.	Sammy Davis	DB	6-0	178	Humble, TX	Texas A&M
38.	Bo Scaife	WR	6-4	220	Denver, CO	Texas
39.	Cedric Hilliard	DL	6-3	295	Arlington, TX	Notre Dame
40.	Daniel Davis	RB	5-11	215	Stafford, VA	North Carolina
41.	Kenny King	DL	6-4	270	Daphne, AL	Alabama
42.	Julius Jones	RB	5-11	185	Big Stone Gap, VA	Notre Dame
43.	Robert Johnson	TE	6-6	255	Montgomery, AL	Auburn
44.	Andre Johnson	WR	6-3	200	Miami, FL	Miami
45.	Kendyll Pope	LB	6-2	212	Lake City, FL	Florida State
46.	Brent Cummings	RB	5-11	185	Belding, MI	Michigan
47.	William Green	RB	6-1	220	Brigantine, NJ	Boston College
48.	Jeff Faine	OL	6-3	310	Saint Mary, FL	Notre Dame
49.	J.P. Losman	QB	6-3	185	Venice, CA	UCLA
50.	Derek Watson	RB	6-1	205	Williamston, SC	South Carolina
51.	Durell Robinson	WR	6-2	200	Lyman, SC	Georgia
52.	Jason Geathers	RB	6-3	215	Boca Raton, FL	Miami
53.	Dante Ellington	OL	6-6	298	Leighton, AL	Alabama
54.	Ty Warren	DL	6-4	277	Bryan, TX	Texas A&M
55.	Joe Weber	RB	6-1	220	San Bernardino, CA	Texas A&M
56.	Bryce Bishop	OL	6-5	310	Miami, FL	Ohio State
57.	Bryan Scott	WR	6-2	205	Buckingham, PA	Penn State
58.	Rex Grossman	QB	6-2	205	Bloomington, IN	Florida
59.	Kerry Carter	RB	6-0	225	Ontario, Canada	Stanford
60.	Jason Frederick	DB	5-11	198	Houston, TX	Texas A&M
61.	Onterrio Smith	RB	5-11	190	Sacramento, CA	Tennessee
62.	Shane Lehmann	OL	6-5	285	Corona, CA	UCLA
63.	Bryce Bohlander	OL	6-6	270	Salem, OR	UCLA
64.	Brandon Phillips	DL	6-6	270	Chandler, AZ	Arizona
65.	Sean Milligan	OL	6-4	285	Norcross, GA	Notre Dame
66.	Curtis Crosby	DB	5-11	175	Columbus, OH	Ohio State
67.	Byron Hardmon	LB	6-2	215	Jacksonville, FL	Florida
68.	Walter Young	DL	6-4	290	Purvis, MS	LSU
69.	Keith Leavitt	OL	6-8	290	Fitchburg, MA	Boston College
70.	DeMarco McNeil	DL	6-1	300	Prichard, AL	Auburn
71.	Greg Barnum	OL	6-1	295	Killeen, TX	Tennessee
72.	Charles Roberson	DL	6-3	235	Fairburn, GA	Tennessee
73.	Richard McNutt	DB	6-0	175	Park Forest, IL	Ohio State
74.	Alan Reuber	OL	6-7	275	Plano, TX	Texas A&M
75.	Augie Hoffman	OL	6-2	315	Parkridge, NJ	Boston College
76.	Jeff Womble	DL	6-3	295	Dunwoody, GA	Florida State
77.	Treverance Faulk	LB	6-3	220	Lafayette, LA	LSU
78.	Matt Lomax	OL	6-4	295	Mobile, AL	Alabama
79.	Brian Mance	DB	6-0	185	Manning, SC	Clemson
80.	Domanick Davis	DB	5-10	180	Breaux Bridge, LA	LSU
81.	Thomas Tapeh	RB	6-1	220	St. Paul, MN	Minnesota
82.	Jerry Owens	WR	6-4	180	Newhall, CA	UCLA
83.	Tony Pape	OL	6-6	290	Hinsdale, IL	Michigan
84.	Joseph Siofele	LB	6-2	235	Waipahu, HI	Arizona
85.	Jeremy LeSueur	DB	6-1	185	Holly Springs, MS	Michigan
86.	Jeremy Williams	DL	6-5	235	Spokane, WA	Washington State
87.	Dave Costlow	L	6-4	255	Lansdale, PA	Penn State
88.	Charles Drake	RB	6-1	189	Los Angeles, CA	Michigan
89.	Faafetai Tupai	DL	6-4	298	Monterey, CA	Washington State
90.	Santonio Beard	RB	6-1	205	Nashville, TN	Alabama
91.	Jason Rader	TE	6-5	235	St. Albans, WV	Georgia
92.	Steve Stevenson	WR	6-2	205	Glendora, CA	USC
93.	Cole Pittman	DL	6-4	260	Shreveport, LA	Texas
94.	Artie Ellis	WR	6-3	194	Houston, TX	Texas
95.	Adrien Clarke	OL	6-5	310	Shaker Heights, OH	Ohio State
96.	Clifton Smith	LB	6-1	240	Freeport, NY	Syracuse
97.	Kenny Hayter	RB	5-11	200	Houston, TX	Texas
98.	Fabian Walker	QB	6-2	205	Americus, GA	Florida State
99.	Michael Gaines	TE	6-3	255	Tallahassee, FL	Alabama
100.	Bruce Thornton	RB	6-0	180	LaGrange, GA	Georgia

Bill King is host of the popular radio sports talk show Sports Scene on 50,000-watt WLAC. King has been covering recruiting for 15 years and is considered one the nation's foremost experts. To reach Bill King's hotline, call 1-900-288-2323. (Cost is $1.69 per minute; must be 18 years of age or older to call.)

SEC

1. ALABAMA

No less than six signees project as stalwarts for the defensive front including Floridians Jarrett Johnson, Garry McNealy and Gerard Clark. Linebacker Saleem Rasheed should help immediately and tailback Brandon Miree is the heir apparent to Shaun Alexander.

2. GEORGIA

The Bulldogs targeted wideouts and got highly coveted Reggie Brown and Durell Robinson. Running back was also a need and Bruce Thornton has home-run ability. Jason Rader could be coach Jim Donnan's next all-star tight end.

3. FLORIDA

Defensive linemen Clint Mitchell, Roy Williams, Tron LaFavor and Tony Charles all could star. Linebackers Matt Farrior, Byron Hardmon and Todd Poitier are impact players. Lito Sheppard is perhaps the nation's top two-way performer.

4. TENNESSEE

At defensive end, German import Constantin Ritzmann has a high upside. Defensive tackle Albert Haynesworth is an agile 300-pounder. Offensive linemen Anthony Herrera, Greg Barnum and Scott Wells will star in the future. Onterrio Smith is a big play performer.

5. LSU

Eric Edwards is big and athletic. Bradie James and Trev Faulk rejected numerous offers. LaBrandon Toefield will help at tailback despite missing his senior season with a knee injury. Walter Young and Paul Broussard will help replace Anthony McFarland.

6. ARKANSAS

Razorback fans will love quarterback Gary Brashears and tailback Cedric Cobbs. Wideouts Eddie Williams, Sparky Hamilton and Richard Smith could help Anthony Lucas quickly.

7. MISSISSIPPI STATE

Dontae Walker could start as a freshman. Quarterback Kevin Fant will have many productive years. Willie Blade and Dorsett Davis are 300-pound J.C. signees who project to start.

8. AUBURN

The Tigers signed a terrific quarterback in Allen Tillman. In-state running backs Casinious Moore and Michael Owens could help quickly. DeMarco McNeil was underrated by many.

9. SOUTH CAROLINA

Lou Holtz will love star tailback Derek Watson and 255-pound fullback Andrew Pinnock in his backfield. Juco defensive lineman Cleveland Pinkney was coveted by many other traditional powers.

10. KENTUCKY

Wildcat fans will love the quarterback/tight end duo of Jared Lorenzen and Derek Smith who prepped together. Several 300-pounders led by Kip Sixberry should help on the offensive front.

11. OLE MISS

New coach David Cutcliff tutored Peyton Manning while at Tennessee and he now has Eli Manning to mold. Cutcliff also recruited the Volunteer State thoroughly signing linebacker Jamil Northcutt, receiver Wes Scott and running back Tremaine Turner.

12. VANDERBILT

Quarterback Benji Walker is the best signal-caller the Dores have signed in over a decade. Justin Giboney is a solid defensive back. Navy transfer Duncan Cave could start immediately at center.

SEC TOP 20 FRESHMEN

NAME	POS	HT	WT	HOMETOWN	SIGNED BY
1. Reggie Brown	WR	6-2	185	Carrollton, GA	Georgia
2. Lito Sheppard	DB	5-11	195	Jacksonville, FL	Florida
3. Dontae Walker	RB	5-10	200	Clinton, MS	Miss. State
4. Bradie James	LB	6-3	205	West Monroe, LA	LSU
5. Constantin Ritzman	DL	6-4	245	Tallahassee, FL	Tennessee
6. David Paine	DL	6-7	260	Memphis, TN	Alabama
7. Gary Brashears	QB	6-5	210	Clarksville, AR	Arkansas
8. Albert Haynesworth	DL	6-6	300	Hartsville, SC	Tennessee
9. Saleem Rasheed	LB	6-3	220	Birmingham, AL	Alabama
10. Cedric Cobbs	RB	6-0	217	Little Rock, AR	Arkansas
11. Kevin Breedlove	OL	6-5	295	Clemson, SC	Georgia
12. Eric Edwards	TE	6-5	250	Monroe, LA	LSU
13. Kenny King	DL	6-4	270	Daphne, AL	Alabama
14. Robert Johnson	TE	6-6	255	Montgomery, AL	Auburn
15. Derek Watson	RB	6-1	205	Williamston, SC	So. Carolina
16. Durell Robinson	WR	6-2	200	Lyman, SC	Georgia
17. Dante Ellington	OL	6-6	298	Leighton, AL	Alabama
18. Rex Grossman	QB	6-2	205	Bloomington, IN	Florida
19. Onterrio Smith	RB	5-11	190	Sacramento, CA	Tennessee
20. Byron Hardmon	LB	6-2	215	Jacksonville, FL	Florida

ACC

1. FLORIDA STATE

The Noles did not have many scholarships to give, but the quality of the individual recruits matches up with any team in America. Running back Nick Maddox is an awesome talent as is athlete Anquan Boldin. Darnell Dockett and Alonzo Jackson are premier defensive linemen.

2. CLEMSON

Tommy Bowden had an excellent talent haul. Quarterback Willie Simmons is good enough to start immediately. Brian Mance, a rare cover corner, ignored several national powers to sign with the Tigers. Lightning-fast backers Rodney Feaster and Rodney Thomas are impact players. Running back Chad Jasmine was the top back in Louisiana.

3. NORTH CAROLINA

The Tar Heels needed a feature running back and they signed one of the best in Daniel Davis. Defensive back Michael Waddell was America's most coveted cover corner. Wide receiver Jamal Jones should help quickly as he has size and speed.

4. GEORGIA TECH

Another well-rounded class for the Yellow Jackets. Running backs Sidney Ford, Jermaine Hatch and William Glover can carry the freight. Recruiting at linebacker was very productive, as well, with Ricardo Wimbush, Gary Johnson and Ather Brown leading the way.

5. VIRGINIA

Quarterback was a target and signing Matt Shaub and Bryson Spinner will help the cause. Linemen Colin McWeeny and Micah Kimball can play as can linebacker R.C. Cosby.

6. NC STATE

Start with Jatavis Sanders, who is the perfect quarterback for the Wolfpack system. Defensive backs Marcus Ellerbe and J.J. Washington were highly sought-after.

Recruiting Report

7. MARYLAND

Signing Latrez Harrison was huge for the Terrapins. He might be the country's best run/pass quarterback. Watch out for linebacker Bernie Fiddler.

8. WAKE FOREST

Wake only signed ten players, but quarterback C.J. Leak was one of them. Leak broke Notre Dame's heart.

9. DUKE

New coach Carl Franks signed a few blue chippers such as tight ends Benjamin Watson and Nick Brzezinski.

ACC TOP 20 FRESHMEN

NAME	POS	HT	WT	HOMETOWN	SIGNED BY
1. Michael Waddell	DB	5-11	170	Ellerbe, NC	North Carolina
2. Anquan Boldin	QB	6-2	205	Pahokee, FL	Florida State
3. Nick Maddox	RB	6-0	190	Kannapolis, NC	Florida State
4. Darnell Dockett	DL	6-4	260	Burtonsville, MD	Florida State
5. Latrez Harrison	QB	6-3	214	Atlanta, GA	Maryland
6. C.J. Leak	QB	6-4	220	Charlotte, NC	Wake Forest
7. Daniel Davis	RB	5-11	215	Stafford, VA	North Carolina
8. Kendyll Pope	LB	6-2	212	Lake City, FL	Florida State
9. Jeff Womble	DL	6-3	295	Dunwoody, GA	Florida State
10. Brian Mance	DB	6-0	185	Manning, SC	Clemson
11. Fabian Walker	QB	6-2	205	Americus, GA	Florida State
12. Willie Simmons	QB	6-1	185	Quincy, FL	Clemson
13. Art Thomas	RB	6-3	180	Mechanicsburg, PA	Virginia
14. Matt Schaub	QB	6-6	222	West Chester, PA	Virginia
15. Alonzo Jackson	DL	6-4	245	Americus, GA	Florida State
16. Bernie Fiddler	LB	6-1	215	Swedesboro, NJ	Maryland
17. Anthony Lawston	WR	6-4	215	Baltimore, MD	Georgia Tech
18. Recadro Wimbush	LB	6-2	215	Blakely, GA	Georgia Tech
19. William Glover	RB	5-10	185	Tampa, FL	Georgia Tech
20. Marcus Ellerbe	DB	5-9	175	Rockingham, NC	NC State

BIG EAST

1. MIAMI

The Canes signed their best class in years. Start with hulking Vernon Carey and Bryant McKinnie. Their job will be to protect quarterback Ken Dorsey who was among the best on the West Coast. Maurice Sikes projects as a top cover corner. Miami also signed talented athlete Jarett Payton, son of Hall of Famer Walter Payton.

2. BOSTON COLLEGE

The star of this class is running back William Green. He can be an All-American. Paving the way for Green in the future will be Leo Bell, Augie Hoffman, Keith Leavitt and Jim Connor on the offensive line.

3. SYRACUSE

Start with linebackers Clifton Smith, Rich Scanlon and Len Cusumano who hit with a vengeance. Robin Anderson is better than advertised. Mike Postell is a keeper. Chris Buda was a nice catch.

4. VIRGINIA TECH

The Hokies landed perhaps the finest receiver on the East Coast in Andrae Harrison. Keith Willis and Ernest Wilford are rangy and athletic, and will work well in Tech's power offense.

5. PITTSBURGH

Rod Rutherford is the star of the class. It will be interesting to see if coach Walt Harris will play him at quarterback or move him to defense. William Ferguson and Robb Butler can contribute quickly.

6. RUTGERS

The Scarlet Knights signed several receivers with Ryshaun Conover leading the pack. He has special ability. Raheem Orr and Shane Smith were highly sought-after recruits and will be big hitters.

7. WEST VIRGINIA

The Mountaineers signed nine linemen. Defensive lineman John Paricka, a juco transfer, and Cortez McNeil should play quickly. Quincy Wilson could be Coach Don Nehlen's next star.

8. TEMPLE

The Owls signed the full compliment of 25 players. Juco transfer Dante Coles should start from day one in the secondary. Temple also signed defensive lineman Dan Klecko whose father, Joe, starred for the New York Jets as well as the Owls.

BIG EAST TOP 20 FRESHMEN

NAME	POS	HT	WT	HOMETOWN	SIGNED BY
1. Vernon Carey	OL	6-5	330	Miami, FL	Miami
2. Andre Johnson	WR	6-3	200	Miami, FL	Miami
3. William Green	RB	6-1	220	Brigantine, NJ	Boston College
4. Jason Geathers	RB	6-3	215	Boca Raton, FL	Miami
5. Keith Leavitt	OL	6-8	290	Fitchburg, MA	Boston College
6. Augie Hoffman	OL	6-2	315	Parkridge, NJ	Boston College
7. Clifton Smith	LB	6-1	240	Freeport, NY	Syracuse
8. Tom Martin	DL	6-5	250	Farmingdale,NJ	Boston College
9. Mike Postell	DB	5-10	180	Aberdeen, NJ	Syracuse
10. Keith Willis	TE	6-5	220	Norfolk, VA	Virginia Tech
11. Chris Buda	OL	6-3	310	Tallahassee, FL	Syracuse
12. Andrae Harrison	WR	6-3	200	Newport News,VA	Virginia Tech
13. Rod Rutherford	QB	6-3	195	Pittsburgh, PA	Pittsburgh
14. Maurice Sikes	DB	5-11	180	Miami, FL	Miami
15. William Ferguson	DB	5-10	175	North Braddock, PA	Pittsburgh
16. Robb Butler	DB	6-0	185	Pittsburgh, PA	Pittsburgh
17. Raheem Orr	LB	6-4	225	Elizabeth, NJ	Rutgers
18. Ryshaun Conover	WR	6-3	195	Lakewood, NJ	Rutgers
19. Quincy Wilson	RB	5-10	200	Weirton, WV	West Virginia
20. Jarett Payton	ATH	6-2	205	Arlington, IL	Miami

BIG 10

1. OHIO STATE

John Cooper signed another outstanding class. Top notch running back acquisitions include Jesse Kline, Kelton Lindsay and Richard Hall. The Buckeyes' secondary signees are second to none as Richard McNutt, Curtis Crosby and Michael Doss are all prime-timers.

2. MICHIGAN

Tony Pape and Demetrius Solomon will not disappoint. The Wolverines went down south and Louisiana provided them with defensive back Greg Brooks and receiver Ronald Bellamy. Jeremy LeSueur, from Mississippi, is another quality defensive back.

3. MICHIGAN STATE

Looks like the Spartans are set for many years on the offensive line as DeMarco Monroe, Brian Ottney, Joe Patrick, Tupe Peko and Steve Stewart all have the size and attitude. Many considered linebacker T.J. Duckett as the best defensive prospect in America.

4. PENN STATE

The Nittany Lions signed only ten players. Receivers Bryant Johnson and Yaacov Yisrael are top caliber recruits. Expect running back Horace Dodd to provide immediate depth. Defensive backs Bryan Scott and Deryck Toles will play safety.

5. PURDUE

Juco receiver Larry Shyne heads this fine class and Drew Brees will continue to stretch defenses. On defense, linebackers Tim Olmstead, Melvin Scurry, Landon Johnson and Daniel Giles all can contribute.

6. ILLINOIS

Look for linebacker Phil Macklin to be a difference maker. He has terrific skills. In the trenches, both Sean Bubin and Aaron Hodges project as contributors. Brandon Lloyd will help the cause as well.

7. WISCONSIN

The Badgers like big running backs and Isaac Booker will not disappoint. He is a 255-pounder and projects as a fullback. Cover corners are always a "tough find" but B.J. Tucker fits the mold. Keep an eye on quarterback prospect Scott Willie.

8. INDIANA

Jucos will provide an impact for the Hoosiers. Defensive lineman James Atkins, offensive lineman James Evans and receiver Jerry Dorsey are just three of six J.C. recruits who can play. Massive 295-pound fullback Jeremi Johnson is a load.

9. IOWA

Expect defensive end Kory Borchers to contribute quickly. Fullback Erik Jensen can turn some heads as can quarterback John Beutjer. Running back Aaron Greving also will play baseball for the Hawkeyes.

10. MINNESOTA

Gopher fans will love Thomas Tapeh. He's raw, but talented. Matt McIntosh and Anthony Dabruzzi, at 6'8", project as tackles.

11. NORTHWESTERN

Chris Brown can be an impact player.

BIG 10 TOP 20 FRESHMEN

NAME	POS	HT	WT	HOMETOWN	SIGNED BY
1. T.J. Duckett	LB	6-2	255	Kalamazoo, MI	Mich. State
2. Kelton Lindsay	RB	6-1	195	Lebanon, OH	Ohio State
3. Demetrius Solomon	OL	6-7	280	Flint, MI	Michigan
4. Brent Cummings	RB	5-11	185	Belding, MI	Michigan
5. Bryce Bishop	OL	6-5	310	Miami, FL	Ohio State
6. Bryan Scott	WR	6-2	205	Buckingham, PA	Penn State
7. Curtis Crosby	DB	5-11	175	Columbus, OH	Ohio State
8. Richard McNutt	DB	6-0	175	Park Forest, IL	Ohio State
9. Thomas Tapeh	RB	6-1	220	St. Paul, MN	Minnesota
10. Tony Pape	OL	6-6	290	Hinsdale, IL	Michigan
11. Jeremy LeSueur	DB	6-1	185	Holly Springs, MS	Michigan
12. Dave Costlow	L	6-4	255	Lansdale, PA	Penn State
13. Charles Drake	RB	6-1	189	Los Angeles, CA	Michigan
14. Adrien Clarke	OL	6-5	310	Shaker Heights, OH	Ohio State
15. Brian Ottney	OL	6-6	285	Troy, MI	Mich. State
16. DeMarco Monroe	OL	6-4	300	Evansville, IN	Mich. State
17. Chris Brown	RB	6-3	205	Naperville, IL	Northwestern
18. Tyrece Butler	WR	6-4	195	Indianapolis	Michigan
19. Bryant Johnson	WR	6-3	205	Baltimore, MD	Penn State
20. Tim Olmstead	LB	6-3	245	Orland Hills, IL	Purdue

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Recruiting Report

BIG 12

1. TEXAS

Awesome! Start with signal-caller Chris Simms and linebacker Cory Redding, both considered to be the best in America on offense and defense. Linemen Derrick Dockery and Alfio Randall are terrific. The Longhorns dipped into Louisiana to get defensive lineman Cole Pittman and ventured to Colorado for receiver Bo Scaife.

2. TEXAS A&M

Defensive tackle Ty Warren may be the best at his position in the country. The Aggies raided Louisiana to sign defensive end Brian West and linebacker Jason LeDoux. Running back Joe Weber is big time. Sammy Davis will be an excellent cornerback.

3. OKLAHOMA STATE

Star quarterback/athlete Chris Massey kept everybody waiting, but eventually settled on the Cowboys. He will have a tremendous impact on the OSU program. OSU inked eight jucos including stud defensive end Juqua Thomas who will start immediately.

4. NEBRASKA

Not a highly touted class, but solid nonetheless. Dan Waldrop is a highly regarded hulking lineman. Robin Miller looks like a future star at running back. Juco receiver Larry Henderson should help quickly. Ryon Bingham will be a star on defense.

5. KANSAS STATE

Rashad Washington and running back Rashad Jackson are superior talents. Texas signal-caller Ell Roberson, who can make big plays, is the Wildcats' next Michael Bishop. Juco Cliff Holloman is a stud defensive end.

6. MISSOURI

The Tigers protected their borders well, and their in-state recruiting haul was outstanding. Offensive lineman Rob Droege, defensive back Terrence Curry and linebacker Sean Doyle are extremely talented. Georgia product Darius Outlaw is a top notch quarterback.

7. OKLAHOMA

Quarterback Jason White and tight end Josh Tucker are coups for new coach Bob Stoops. Jamar Mozee is a stud running back who should play early. Look for big things out of receiver Jarvis Smith. Jon Hawk is a nice coup out of Colorado.

8. IOWA STATE

Juco quarterback Derrick Walker will be an immediate help. Running back Michael Wagner, from California, is a star quality player who will eventually replace Darren Davis. Cyclone fans will also like defensive end Casey Shelton.

9. TEXAS TECH

The Red Raiders have been producing high-caliber running backs and talented Shaun Williams fits the mold. Linemen Lamont Anderson and Rex Richards are excellent in the trenches.

10. KANSAS

The Jayhawks signed Reggie Duncan who is a top-caliber running back. Texas A&M and Kansas fought for the Texas recruit until signing day. Juco quarterback Dylen Smith, who can help immediately, was also a huge pick-up.

11. BAYLOR

New coach Kevin Steele got a late start because of his duties with the Carolina Panthers, but he still picked up a few keepers. Big time fullback physical Keith Belton and punishing linebacker Anthony Simmons followed Steele from Carolina. Defensive back Eric Giddens can help.

12. COLORADO

New coach Gary Barnett picked up some help, despite controversy surrounding the previous coaching staff in Boulder. Karl Allis, from Arkansas, is a capable offensive lineman. Barnett will bring more capable help in the future after getting a late start this season during the transition from Northwestern.

BIG 12 TOP 20 FRESHMEN

NAME	POS	HT	WT	HOMETOWN	SIGNED BY
1. Chris Simms	QB	6-5	210	Franklin Lakes, NJ	Texas
2. Chris Massey	QB	6-0	185	Spiro, OK	Okla. State
3. Cory Redding	LB	6-4	226	Houston, TX	Texas
4. Alfio Randall	OL	6-4	265	Houston, TX	Texas
5. Sammy Davis	DB	6-0	178	Humble, TX	Texas A&M
6. Bo Scaife	WR	6-4	220	Denver, CO	Texas
7. Ty Warren	DL	6-4	277	Bryan, TX	Texas A&M
8. Joe Weber	RB	6-1	220	San Bernardino, CA	Texas A&M
9. Jason Frederick	DB	5-11	198	Houston, TX	Texas A&M
10. Alan Reuber	OL	6-7	275	Plano, TX	Texas A&M
11. Cole Pittman	DL	6-4	260	Shreveport, LA	Texas
12. Artie Ellis	WR	6-3	194	Houston, TX	Texas
13. Kenny Hayter	RB	5-11	200	Houston, TX	Texas
14. Rashad Washington	ATH	6-4	210	Wichita, KS	Kansas State
15. Jon Hawk	DL	6-6	285	Aurora, CO	Oklahoma
16. Casey Shelton	DL	6-7	260	W. Des Moines, IA	Iowa State
17. Reggie Duncan	RB	5-9	205	Killeen, TX	Kansas
18. Ell Roberson	QB	6-1	190	Baytown, TX	Kansas State
19. Rob Droege	OL	6-6	260	St. Louis, MO	Missouri
20. Jason White	QB	6-3	215	Tuttle, OK	Oklahoma

PAC-10

1. UCLA

The Bruins signed a very well-rounded class. Quarterback J.P. Losman is a solid signal-caller and much underrated. Tight end Mike Seidman is a future star as well. Ricky Manning and DaShaun McCullough are rangy defensive backs. Marcus Reese was the top linebacker in California. Shane Lehmann and Bryce Bohlander will solidify the offensive line for years to come.

2. USC

The Trojans had tremendous success at signing receivers. Kareem Kelly may be the best of the bunch, but Steve Stevenson, Marcell Allmond and juco transfer Craig Mitchell are not far behind. Many consider defensive tackle Bernard Riley to be the best at his position in the nation. A few freshmen defensive backs will have to step in and play immediately this fall. Darrell Rideaux is the most likely to draw an early starting assignment.

3. ARIZONA

As expected, the Wildcats recruited well on defense. Defensive end Cory Kipp and defensive tackle Brandon Phillips have star quality. Linebackers Lance Briggs and Joseph Siofele pack a punch. The four combine to give the Wildcats toughness on defense.

4. CALIFORNIA

The Golden Bears are still celebrating the signing of super quarterback Kyle Boller, who could turn out to be a top draft pick some day. Defensive backs Nnamdi Asomugha and Atari Callen are big time.

5. ARIZONA STATE

The Sun Devils signed five massive offensive lineman led by Nick Johnson. Linebacker Solomon Bates is a terror on defense as is lineman Tony Aguilar. Sensational juco running back Delvon Flowers will play immediately.

6. WASHINGTON

New coach Rick Neuheisel's class is led by all-everything running back Paul Arnold who could start as a freshman. Placekicker John Anderson, from Florida, is a big catch as well.

7. WASHINGTON STATE

At quarterback, the Cougars signed Matt Kegel, the cousin of Ryan Leaf. Jeremy Williams spends most of his time in opponents' backfields. Jucos Marcus Williams and Milton Wynn will help at receiver.

8. STANFORD

Stanford recruits from coast to coast and this year's class is no different. Outstanding athlete Luke Powell is from Smyrna, Tenn. Tight end Darin Naatjes hales from Alvord, Iowa and running back Kerry Carter is from Toronto, Ont.

9. OREGON

The Ducks are assured of looking good on offense with tight end George Wrightster, receivers Samie Parker and Keenan Howry.

10. OREGON STATE

Dennis Erickson got 14 jucos. Quarterback Shane House is key.

PAC 10 TOP 20 FRESHMEN

NAME	POS	HT	WT	HOMETOWN	SIGNED BY
1. Kyle Boller	QB	6-3	195	Newhall, CA	California
2. Paul Arnold	RB	6-1	200	Seattle, WA	Washington
3. Bernard Riley	DL	6-3	290	Los Alamitos, CA	USC
4. Darin Naatjes	TE	6-6	230	Alvord, IA	Stanford
5. Chris Lewis	QB	6-3	205	Long Beach, CA	Stanford
6. Mike Seidman	TE	6-5	246	Westlake, CA	UCLA
7. Darrell Rideaux	DB	5-9	175	Long Beach, CA	USC
8. Kareem Kelly	WR	6-1	185	Long Beach, CA	USC
9. Marcus Reese	LB	6-2	216	San Jose, CA	UCLA
10. J.P. Losman	QB	6-3	185	Venice, CA	UCLA
11. Kerry Carter	RB	6-0	225	Toronto, ON	Stanford
12. Shane Lehmann	OL	6-5	285	Corona, CA	UCLA
13. Bryce Bohlander	OL	6-6	270	Salem, OR	UCLA
14. Brandon Phillips	DL	6-6	270	Chandler, AZ	Arizona
15. Jerry Owens	WR	6-4	180	Newhall, CA	UCLA
16. Joseph Siofele	LB	6-2	235	Waipahu, HI	Arizona
17. Jeremy Williams	DL	6-5	235	Spokane, WA	Wash. State
18. Faafetai Tupai	DL	6-4	298	Monterey, CA	Wash. State
19. Steve Stevenson	WR	6-2	205	Glendora, CA	USC
20. Ricky Manning	DB	5-9	170	Fresno, CA	UCLA

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Recruiting Report

C-USA

1. SOUTHERN MISS

The Golden Eagles struck gold with Ivory Brown who has great potential. Watch out for Bobby Garner and juco offensive lineman Billy Clay. Joe Henley was a good steal out from under the Gators.

2. LOUISVILLE

Expect great play from Gerry Ahrens who has a live arm and can light up the sky. Tavaris Spillman is top-notch as is juco defensive back Mike White. Curry Burns is excellent for the Cards' secondary.

3. TULANE

New coach Chris Scelfo will enjoy defensive end signees Darryl Blappert, Marlon Tickles and Floyd Dorsey. Running back Jeff Sanchez should help quickly.

4. HOUSTON

Coach Kim Helton signed nearly a dozen juco players, including defensive backs William Pettis and Hamin Milligan. Tight end Stephen Cucci is probably two years away.

5. CINCINNATI

Linebacker Aaron Guzman is a juco transfer who projects as a starter. Mario Monds has terrific talent provided he keeps his weight in check. Luiz Gonzalez is the Bearcats' quarterback of the future.

6. EAST CAROLINA

Damane Duckett is a hulking defensive lineman who may start as a freshman. Virgil Neal has good size and projects as a defensive tackle.

7. MEMPHIS

Coach Rip Scherer has to be pleased with the signing of Stanley Jackson who could develop into an all league defensive end. DeMarquis Terry and B.J. Edwards should help in the secondary.

8. UAB

Watson Brown inked nine juco stars, the most prominent being lineman Kevin Grace. Running back Golinsky Smith should help.

9. ARMY

Signings not released.

CONFERENCE USA TOP 20 FRESHMEN

NAME	POS	HT	WT	HOMETOWN	SIGNED BY
1. DeMarquis Terry	RB	5-10	190	Manchester, GA	Memphis
2. Jeff Sanchez	RB	5-11	175	Meraux, LA	Tulane
3. Tavaris Spillman	WR	6-1	175	Dania, FL	Louisville
4. Anthony Floyd	ATH	5-11	175	Youngstown, OH	Louisville
5. Kelvin Banks	OL	6-2	326	Houston, TX	Houston
6. Damane Duckett	DL	6-6	260	Clemmons, NC	East Carolina
7. Ivory Brown	RB	6-1	240	Bastrop, LA	Southern Miss
8. Darryl Blappert	DL	6-7	255	Slidell, LA	Tulane
9. Gerry Ahrens	QB	6-3	170	Louisville, KY	Louisville
10. B.J. Edwards	RB	5-8	160	Stone Mtn.,GA	Memphis
11. Steve Cucci	TE	6-4	216	Bradenton, FL	Houston
12. Luis Gonzalez	QB	6-2	190	Coral Park, FL	Cincinnati
13. Curry Burns	DB	6-1	180	Miami, FL	Louisville
14. Buddy Smith	OL	6-4	285	Louisburg, NC	East Carolina
15. Virgil Neal	DL	6-2	280	Greensboro, NC	East Carolina
16. Justin Barbera	LB	6-0	230	Delran NJ	East Carolina
17. Stanley Jackson	DL	6-6	235	Memphis, TN	Memphis
18. Bobby Garner	QB	6-3	200	Gulfport, MS	Southern Miss
19. Brent Brothers	QB	6-2	215	Angleton, TX	Tulane
20. James Dunn	WR	5-9	165	Santa Monica, CA	Tulane

WAC

1. TCU

Signing the Braziel brothers, Jerrod and Jerome, was big. Both should be outstanding defensive backs. Casey Printers should be the next Horned Frog quarterback.

2. SMU

Thornton Chandler, Jr., from Jacksonville, Fla., projects as an defensive lineman. His father played college football at Alabama and professionally for Dallas. Warrie Birdwell is a defensive tackle who can contribute early as can offensive lineman Sterling Harris.

3. RICE

Coach Ken Hatfield likes to feature the tailback in his offense and Donnie Pinkerton can get the job done. Jeremy Hurd is a great athlete. Danny Cestero will be one of the best linebackers in Rice history.

4. TULSA

Signing a high caliber quarterback like Josh Blankenship is a plus. Expect defensive end Jason Collier to play quickly.

5. FRESNO STATE

Receiver Marque Davis will help stretch defenses in coach Pat Hill's offense. Offensive lineman Mike Painchaud has the ability to get early playing time.

6. SAN JOSE STATE

The Spartans signed two juco running backs who should make an impact in Stanley Joyner and Darian Morton. Coach Dave Baldwin signed fifteen juco prospects.

7. UTEP

The Miners will like linebacker Jared White and defensive back Derrick Walker among others.

8. HAWAII

Look out for linebackers Kevin Jackson and Anipati Mailo. June Jones did a good job of combining juco and high school signees. Kenyonta Marshall should help immediately on the defensive line.

WAC TOP 20 FRESHMEN

NAME	POS	HT	WT	HOMETOWN	SIGNED BY
1. Robert Pollard	LB	6-3	230	Beaumont, TX	TCU
2. Mike Painchaud	OL	6-5	290	Norco, CA	Fresno State
3. Thornton Chandler	DL	6-3	240	Jacksonville, FL	SMU
4. Marque Davis	DB	5-11	180	Dos Palos, CA	Fresno State
5. Tommicus Walker	RB	5-11	185	Arlington, TX	TCU
6. Warrie Birdwell	DL	6-4	265	Mission, TX	SMU
7. Keyonta Marshall	DL	6-1	280	Saginaw, MI	Hawaii
8. Jerrod Braziel	DB	5-11	170	Ft. Worth, TX	TCU
9. Jerome Braziel	DB	5-11	170	Ft. Worth, TX	TCU
10. Kendall Edwards	RB	6-0	195	Rubidoux, CA	Fresno State
11. Casey Printers	QB	6-3	190	DeSoto, TX	TCU
12. Danny Cestero	LB	6-3	220	Houston, TX	Rice
13. Sterling Harris	OL	6-6	280	Terrell, TX	SMU
14. Kevin Jackson	LB	6-4	215	Valley View CA	Hawaii
15. Antonio Sanchez	OL	6-5	270	Sylmar, CA	Fresno State
16. Jared White	LB	6-0	200	Pampa, TX	UTEP
17. Shannon Bennett	ATH	6-1	170	Grand Prairie, TX	SMU
18. Donnie Pinkerton	RB	5-8	165	Schertz, TX	Rice
19. Josh Blankenship	QB	6-2	197	Tulsa, OK	Tulsa
20. Pisa Tinoisamoa	LB	6-2	220	San Diego, CA	Hawaii

Recruiting Report

MOUNTAIN WEST

1. BYU

In Provo, it is about offense and the next star signal-caller could be Matt Berry. Running backs Luke Staley and Fahu Tahi are big, strong and have excellent speed.

2. COLORADO STATE

The Rams had a good recruiting haul and outside linebacker Adam Wade is one of the stars. Receiver Lamar Anderson is a big play threat.

3. UTAH

Juco receiver Dennis Smith will star from day one. Most of the signees were on the offensive side of the ball.

4. SAN DIEGO STATE

Justin Sisco may be the best punter signed out of the juco ranks this year. Safety DeAngelo Nedd has speed and range.

5. WYOMING

Juco tailback Nate Scott is expected to start. Look for big things out of linebacker Curtis Staley as well.

6. UNLV

The marquee signee is Kawika Sagapolu who is a hulking defensive tackle. Receiver Michael Johnson should help the Rebels as well.

7. NEW MEXICO

Defensive lineman LaMarcus Spillers and defensive back Dante Childress come from the juco ranks and he should help out quickly.

8. AIR FORCE

Signings not released.

MOUNTAIN WEST TOP 20 FRESHMEN

NAME	POS	HT	WT	HOMETOWN	SIGNED BY
1. Matt Berry	QB	6-5	218	Redmond, WA	BYU
2. Adam Wade	LB	6-1	195	Moreno Valley, CA	Colorado St.
3. Kawika Sagapolu	DL	6-4	285	Las Vegas, NV	UNLV
4. Lucas Staley	RB	6-1	214	Tualatin, OR	BYU
5. Fahu Tahi	RB	6-0	233	W. Valley City, UT	BYU
6. Brian Sanders	OL	6-3	345	Mira Loma,CA	BYU
7. Eric Pauly	LB	6-4	214	Conway Spgs., KS	Colorado St.
8. Mark Dreyer	DL	6-4	270	Brighton, CO	Colorado St.
9. Adrian Boyd	RB	5-11	170	Flint, MI	New Mexico
10. Cody Fonnesbeck	WR	5-9	155	St. George, UT	BYU
11. Edwin Benton	RB	5-11	195	Fresno, CA	Utah
12. Brian Save	DL	6-2	255	Santa Ana, CA	Colorado St.
13. Deangelo Nedd	DB	5-11	190	West Hills, CA	San Diego St.
14. Aaron Brown	WR	6-0	180	Redmond, WA	San Diego St.
15. Lamar Anderson	WR	5-11	170	Fontana, CA	Colorado St.
16. Raleigh Fletcher	TE	6-4	250	SeaTac, WA	San Diego St.
17. Brendan Rosen	OL	6-3	285	Hunt. Bch, CA	San Diego St.
18. Curtis Staley	LB	6-3	195	Keller, TX	Wyoming
19. Anthony Arceneaux	WR	5-9	170	Honolulu, HI	Utah
20. Michael Johnson	WR	5-11	185	Oceanside, CA	UNLV

Class of 2000 Report

(BY POSITION LISTED ALPHABETICALLY)

QUARTERBACKS

Brock Berlin	6-2	190	Shreveport, LA	Evangel Christian
Andre McGill	6-1	170	Fort Myers, FL	Fort Myers
Cody Buford	6-3	215	Raytown, MO	South
Hunter Wall	6-4	215	Coppell, TX	Coppell
Matt Groetegoed	6-0	185	Santa Ana, CA	Mater Dei
John Rattay	6-3	185	Tempe, AZ	Desert Vista
Chris Rix	6-3	195	La Puente, CA	Bishop Amat
Zac Wasserman	6-3	195	Westlake, CA	Westlake Village
Timmy Changst	6-2	175	Honolulu, HI	St. Louis
Brandon Sumner	6-4	205	Daytona Beach, FL	Mainland
Craig Ochs	6-3	200	Boulder, CO	Fairview
Matt Lovechhio	6-4	195	Oradell, NJ	Bergen Catholic
Darian Durant	6-2	210	Florence, SC	Wilson
Derrick Crudup	6-3	170	Deerfield Beach, FL	Deerfield Beach
Jeff Smoker	6-4	195	Manheim, PA	Central
Casey Clausenm	6-4	215	Mission Hills, CA	Alemany
Jason Campbell	6-4	195	Taylorsville, MS	Taylorsville
Tracey Thorpe	6-4	220	Melbourne, FL	Melbourne
Dondrial Pinkins	6-3	220	Camilla, GA	Mitchell Baker
Matt Cassell	6-2	195	Van Nuys, CA	Chatsworth

RUNNING BACKS

D.J. Williams	6-2	225	Concord, CA	De La Salle
Brandon Joe	6-1	220	South, OH	Westerville
Willie Green	5-11	190	Kissimmee, FL	Osceola
Tony Switzenburg	5-11	180	Morristown, PA	Morristown
Demetrius Fields	6-0	195	Cleveland, TN	Cleveland
Alex Godfrey	5-9	175	Niceville, FL	Niceville
Harold James	6-1	205	Osceola, AR	Osceola
Michael White	6-3	215	Valencia, CA	Valencia
Derrick Graves	6-2	195	Holt, AL	Holt
Willis McGahee	6-1	210	Miami, FL	Central
Derrick Arnold	6-2	215	Houston, TX	Milby
Justin Green	6-1	215	San Diego, CA	University
Tyson Thompson	6-2	180	Irving, TX	Irving
Chris Howard	6-1	185	Wilmington, CA	Banning
Andre Williams	5-10	203	Durham, NC	North Durham
Jason Crawford	6-3	240	Riverdale, MD	Parkdale
Randy Bell	6-1	204	Maben, MS	Maben
Anthony Fulcher	5-10	190	Scottsdale, AZ	Horizon
Tyrell Dortch	6-1	190	Hoboken, NJ	Hoboken
Jamaica Jackson	6-1	195	Sumter, SC	Sumter
Dustin Picciottic	6-3	230	Doylestown, PA	West
C.J. Hudson	6-1	200	Frostproof, FL	Frostproof
De'Aunte Ferrell	5-10	190	Macedonia, OH	Nordonia
C.J. Batiste	5-10	205	Amite, LA	Amite
Prestib Portee	5-11	205	Kershaw, SC	North Central
Tony Johnson	6-1	200	State College, PA	State College
Devery Henderson	6-0	180	Opelousas, LA	Opelousas
Carlos Andrews	6-0	220	Tallahassee, FL	Godby
Bobby Rose	6-1	190	Winnsboro, LA	Winnsboro
Ryan Joyce	6-0	225	Orlando, FL	Lake Highlands Prep
Tyrone Ervin	5-9	180	Riverside, CA	North

WIDE RECEIVERS

Joel Hazard	5-10	170	Marietta, GA	Sprayberry
Sammy Moore	5-10	165	Mesa, CA	Westwood
Tab Perry	6-2	205	Milpitas, GA	Milpitas
Arthur Martin	5-11	195	Spottswood, VA	Spottswood
Mark Jones	5-10	170	Strath Haven, PA	Strath Haven
Ross Pilkington	6-1	175	Loveland, CO	Loveland
Sloan Thomas	6-2	185	Klein, TX	Klein
Reggie Vickers	6-1	185	Belle Glade, FL	Glade Central
Kelvin Kight	6-0	185	Lithonio, GA	Lithonio
Jeremy Battier	6-4	200	Beverly, MI	Country Day

Recruiting Report

Roy Williams	6-4	190	Odessa, TX	Permian
Tarry Givens	6-4	195	Tallahassee, FL	Godby
Terrell Walker	6-3	185	New Orleans, LA	La Salle
Marcus Bishop	6-0	185	Harper Woods, MI	Gallagher
Charles Rogers	6-4	180	Saginaw, MI	Saginan
Larry Howell	6-3	190	Pritchard, AL	Vigor
B.J. Johnson	6-0	180	Grand Prairie, TX	South

TIGHT ENDS

Dan Stephens	6-3	235	Limsly, WV	Limsly
Darious Livingston	6-3	245	Crestview, FL	Crestview
Willie Roberts	6-7	230	Miami, FL	Southridge
Eric Knott	6-4	235	Detroit, MI	Henry Ford
Jay Ratliff	6-5	220	Valdosta, GA	Lowndes
Kory Thigpen	6-4	220	Taylorsville, MS	Taylorsville
Andre Zellner	6-5	240	Forsyth, GA	Mary Persons
Dan Acri	6-4	240	Harrisburg, PA	Bishop McDevitt
Chris Septak	6-5	220	Omaha, NE	West
Alex Holmes	6-4	280	Harvard, CA	Westlake

OFFENSIVE LINE

Steve Nevarez	6-5	285	San Fernando, CA	Servite
Wes Sims	6-5	290	Weatherford, OK	Weatherford
Jonathan Newcomb	6-3	325	Benton, AR	Benton
Michael Muñoz	6-6	300	Cincinnati, OH	Moeller
Antonio Hall	6-5	275	Canton, OH	McKinley
Ashley Pettigrew	6-5	315	Tallahassee, FL	Lincoln
Ricky Fowler	6-4	280	Columbus, GA	Kendrick
Josh Jaggers	6-4	285	Danville, KY	Danville
Sean Young	6-6	275	Tunnel Hill, GA	NW Whitfield
Cade Comeaux	6-6	300	Crowley, LA	Notre Dame
Shannon Snell	6-5	290	Tampa, FL	Hillsborough
Chris Mitchell	6-6	300	Sweet Home, NY	Sweet Home
Kwame Harris	6-6	300	Newark, DE	Newark
Carlos Joseph	6-6	295	Miami, FL	Edison
Travis Muse	6-6	300	Arcodia, FL	DeSoto
Dale Thomas	6-8	320	Abbeville, SC	Abbeville
Max Starks	6-8	340	Orlando, FL	Lake Highlands Prep
Larry Kinnard	6-4	290	Alliance, OH	Alliance
Danny Dicks	6-6	290	Bellevue, WA	Bellevue
Alex Barron	6-6	295	Orangeburg, SC	Wilkinson
Brandon Savage	6-3	300	Marrero, LA	Ehret
Greg Pauly	6-6	285	Waukesha, WI	Waukesha
Matt Ulrich	6-6	285	Streamwood, IL	Streamwood
Jason Respert	6-4	275	Tallahassee, FL	Lincoln
Alex Stepanovich	6-4	270	Brea, OH	Brea
Brent Pollock	6-3	290	Estates, CA	Rolling Hills
Doug Buckles	6-3	285	Madison, MS	Central
Bobby Meeks	6-4	255	Aldine, TX	Nimitz
Paul Fisher	6-8	315	St. George, UT	Dixie
Alphonso Townsend	6-5	280	Lima, OH	Lima

DEFENSIVE LINE

Caesare Boggess	6-3	285	Van Horn, MO	Van Horn
Jared Wolfgramm	6-5	215	Tempe, AZ	Tempe
Don Callaway	6-4	235	Colquitt, GA	Miller Co.
Raymond Mann	6-2	220	Hampton, VA	Hampton
Albert Means	6-6	310	Memphis, TN	Trezevant
Vince Wilfork	6-3	300	Lantana, FL	Santaluces
Travis Johnson	6-4	250	Sherman Oaks, CA	Notre Dame
Mac Tyler	6-6	300	Montgomery, AL	Lanier
John Lumpkin	6-3	240	Warren, OH	Harding
Daniel Burnett	6-5	260	Lexington, KY	Paul Dunbar
Steve Lee	6-5	295	Shreveport, LA	Evangel Christian
Mondre Dickerson	6-5	245	Memphis, TN	Melrose
Sonny Davis	6-2	285	Austin, TX	Lanier
Ian Scott	6-3	285	Gainesville, FL	Gainesville
Aaron Butler	6-3	285	Tacoma, WA	Lakes
Eddie Brown	6-2	245	Houston, TX	Eisenhower
Vernell Smith	6-3	220	Haines City, FL	Haines City
Steve Williams	6-3	290	Romeoville, IL	Romeoville
Adam Doiron	6-4	255	Duncan, OK	Duncan
John Paul Jones	6-4	285	Lafayette, LA	Carencro
Hayden Moore	6-4	240	Marietta, GA	Lassiter
Darrell Lee	6-5	235	St. Louis, MO	Kirkwood
Teyo Johnson	6-7	250	Everett, WA	Mariner
Brad West	6-3	275	Gurley, AL	Madison Co.
Sam Ruhe	6-5	235	Stow, OH	Walsh Jesuit
Alton Wright	6-5	235	Houston, TX	Jones

LINEBACKERS

Eric Moore	6-4	220	Pahokee, FL	Pahokee
Josh Walker	6-4	230	Tulsa, OK	Edison
Charles Torres	6-2	230	Dallas, TX	Carter
Jason Witten	6-5	225	Elizabethton, TN	Elizabethton
Robert Peace	6-3	230	Ruston, LA	Ruston
Jason Clark	6-2	225	Starkville, MS	Starkville
Jonathan Little	6-3	215	Pageland, SC	Pageland
Ahman Gordon	6-3	240	Everett, WA	Mariner
Brandon Eason	6-4	220	Malvern, AR	Malvern
Troy Bennett	6-1	215	Paulsboro, NJ	Paulsboro
Austin Sendlein	6-3	230	Scottsdale, AZ	Chaparral
LeRon Harrison	6-1	220	Carrollton, GA	Carrollton
Jason Bradley	6-1	205	Sarasota, FL	Booker
Justin Picciotti	6-2	215	Central Bucks, PA	West
Darius Jones	6-2	210	Memorial, WI	Memorial
Ryan Palmer	6-2	230	Arvada, CO	West
Clifton Bowers	6-2	240	Baltimore, MD	Lake Clifton
Edwin Mitchell	6-2	200	Houston, TX	Worthing
Fred Spencer	6-2	225	Houma, LA	Terrebonne
Hobie Holiday	6-3	225	Warner Robins, GA	Houston Co.
Johnny Ducking	6-3	230	Greenville, MS	Greenville
Marco Cooper	6-3	225	Detroit, MI	Cass Tech
Yrvens Guerrier	6-1	220	North Miami, FL	North Miami
John Andrews	6-0	215	Atlanta, GA	Douglas
Darrell Lee	6-1	220	Kirkwood, MO	Kirkwood

DEFENSIVE BACKS

Darren Stephens	6-3	180	Lewisville, TX	Lewisville
Jason Leach	5-10	180	LaPuente, CA	Bishop Amat
Yohance Buchanan	6-0	200	Santa Ana, CA	Mater Dei
Tre Orr	6-2	195	Lake City, FL	Columbia
Brian Odom	6-1	190	Ada, OK	Ada
Andre Williams	6-0	190	Durham, NC	Northern
Derrick Davis	6-2	210	Daleville, AL	Daleville
Richard McClendon	5-11	180	Ponchatoula, LA	Ponchatoula
Dominique Simms	6-2	195	Minneapolis, MN	DeLa Salle
Chris Young	6-1	185	Batesville, MS	South Panola
Corey Bailey	6-0	170	Miami, FL	American
Jonas Buckles	5-10	175	Houston, TX	Yates
Calvin Hall	6-0	185	Benton, LA	Benton
Jessie McNeal	6-0	180	Jenks, OK	Jenks
Bryon McFadden	6-0	180	Hollywood, FL	McArthur
Sherron Moore	6-0	195	Calhoun City, MS	Calhoun City
Ray Ivy	5-11	190	Powder Springs, GA	McEachern
Marcus Houston	6-1	200	Denver, CO	Jefferson
Brandon Jamison	6-1	190	Hopkins, SC	Lower Richland
Tavarus Horne	6-0	190	Hattiesburg, MS	Hattiesburg
Ray Bivens	6-0	175	Gautier, MS	Gautier
Vontez Duff	6-0	180	Copperas Cove, TX	Copperas Cove

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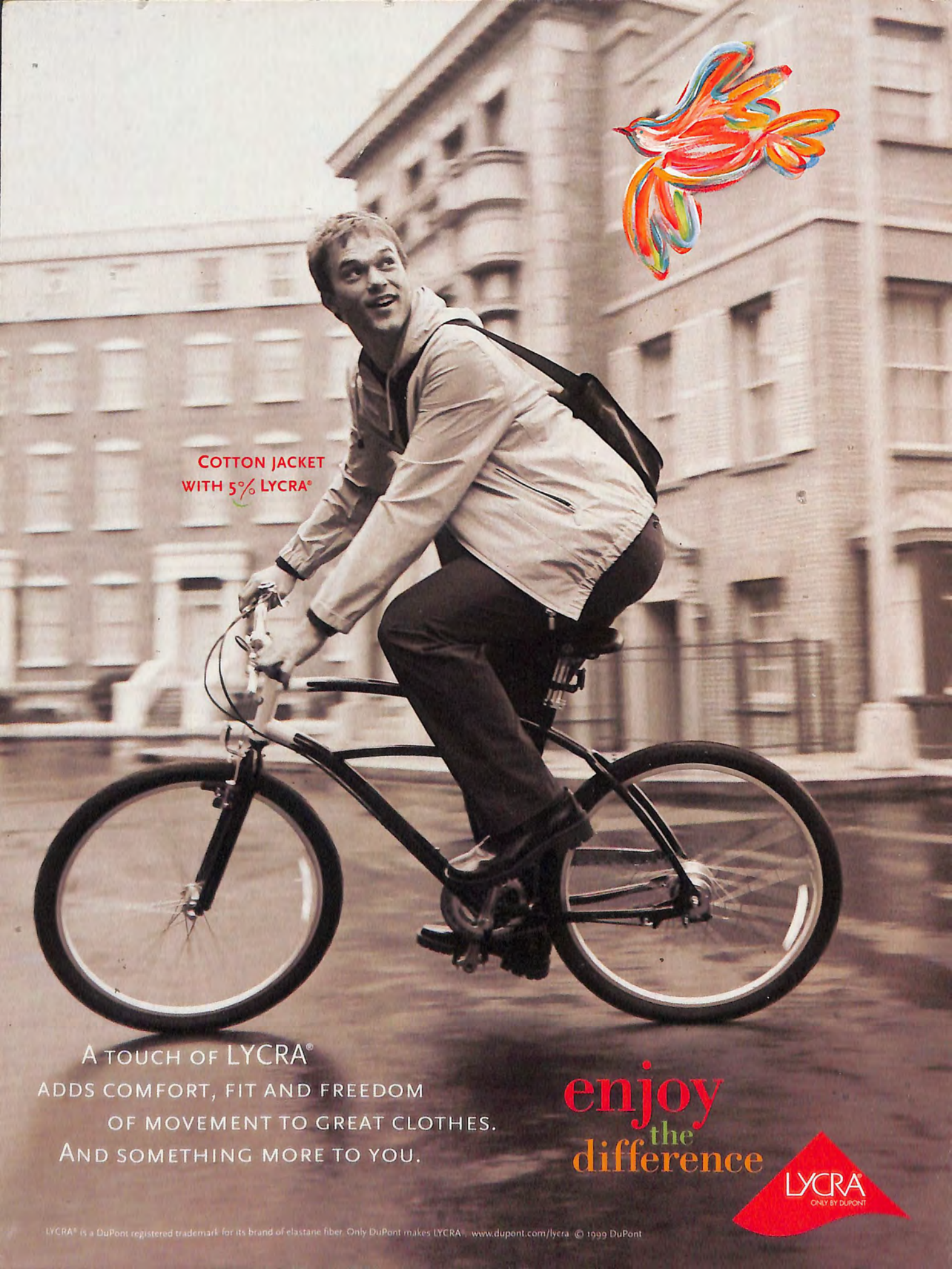
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